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210 ASHLAND AVE., GREEN BAY, WIS.

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NATIONAL EXCHANGE BANK, MILWAUKEE

FINANCIAL SECRETARY
REV. R. A. CARNAHAN
408 MCCALL ST., WAUKESHA, WIS.

EFFICIENCY SECRETARY
REV. C. A. ADAMS
MERRILL, WIS.

Presbyterian Synod of Wisconsin

PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF HOME MISSIONS

SEND ALL MONEY TO G. W. GRAASKAMP
NATIONAL EXCHANGE BANK, MILWAUKEE

MEMBERSHIP

Chippewa—Rev. H. H. Owen, Chippewa Falls
Rev. G. M. Tourtellot, Hudson
Mr. O. E. Olson, Ironwood, Mich.

La Crosse—Mr. D. L. Wartinbee, La Crosse
Rev. Finch A. Clarke, La Crosse
Rev. S. B. Pinney, Neillsville

Madison — Rev. A. D. McKay, Portage
Rev. Geo. E. Hunt, D. D., Madison
Mr. Wm. H. Blair, Janesville

Milwaukee—Rev. C. E. Bovard, Waukesha
Rev. P. B. Jenkins, D.D., Milwaukee
Mr. T. H. Sanderson, Milwaukee

Winnebago—Rev. D. Jenkins Williams, Wausau
Rev. H. W. Knox, Green Bay
Mr. F. R. Upham, Marshfield

Women's Synodical Missionary Society
Mrs. W. O. Carrier, Waukesha
Mrs. H. P. Smith, Superior
Mrs. T. W. Evans, Madison
Mrs. S. L. McKee, West Salem
Mrs. W. E. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee
Mrs. Wm. Mainland, Oshkosh

Wausau, Wis., May 9, 1918.

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Mrs. W. E. Fitzgerald,
450 West Yoming Place,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Fitzgerald:

The Permanent Committee on Wisconsin Home Missions met at Fond du Lac April 30, and we had a very successful meeting. All the men were present with one or two exceptions. The absence of the lady members was very much regretted, and we missed much of their good counsel. We were very glad, however, to have one of the six ladies present. Mrs. Mainland of Oshkosh came and her presence was very much appreciated.

The Committee expressed its sincere regret that the other ladies were absent and expressed the hope that all would be present at the meeting of the Board the day just preceding the Synod of Wisconsin next October.

Your communication and the resolution sent me by the secretary of the W.S.M.S. was reported to the Permanent Committee, and after discussion was referred to a committee of three. The Committee was instructed to bring recommendations. The recommendations appear in the minutes of the Annual Meeting, a copy of which you will receive in a few days. If there is delay, it will be because of work piling up in my office while I am away. I leave for Columbus, Ohio, tonight to attend the Home Missions Council of the General Assembly, which always convenes several days before Assembly opens.

The gist of the Committee's report is this: They acknowledge the receipt of the communication and note with regret the desire of the W.S.M.S. to withdraw from representation on Synod's Permanent Committee, and express their sincere hope that the W.S.M.S. may reconsider the action taken by them.

The Committee also reports their inability to comply with the desire of the ladies to withdraw because Synod's Permanent Committee on Home Missions is created by the Synod of Wisconsin, and it was the action of the Synod of Wisconsin that placed six members of the W.S.M.S. on the Permanent Committee, and the Permanent Committee has no power to change its own personnel, only the Synod of Wisconsin can do that.

The Committee also feels that inasmuch as the W.S.M.S. failed to elect new members, the only thing we can do fairly and legally is to consider the old members as hold-overs and as being in good and regular standing on Synod's Permanent Committee. We were glad indeed that your Body was not entirely without representation, and we were delighted with the presence of Mrs. Mainland, who very ably represented your cause, tho' the presnece of all the ladies would have pleased us more and, to our mind, would be more satisfactory to the Synod of Wisconsin, and perhaps to the W.S.M.S. thruout the several presbyteries.

I trust that the W.S.M.S. members of the Permanent Committee may all succeed in being present at our meeting in Wausau next October, and that the Woman's Synodical Meeting may attract a large number of your directors from every presbytery. We are looking forward to the coming of the Synod and the Synodical Society, and we will do all in our power to make the days spent in Wausau happy and profitable to us all, and to the advancement of the interest of that portion of the work of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ entrusted to the men and women of the Presbyterian Church in our beloved State.

I am

Most sincerely yours,

DJW-Y

Chairman of Permanent Com.

Kindly return to

Mrs. H. P. Yale

3011 State St

Milwaukee

(Copy)

Moved that a special committee of two, Messrs Hunt and Upham, be appointed to convey to the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society in Session at Wausau, October 8th, 1918, our reply to the action of the Executive Committee of their body taken last spring.

We desire to express our deep regret over the action of the Executive Committee voting to sever official relations between the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and the Woman's Synodical Society.

For many years cordial cooperation between us has resulted in great advance of the Lord's work in the northern part of our beloved state, and the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and the whole Synod have always deeply appreciated not only the splendid financial help of the woman, but have delighted in the fine spirit and practical wisdom of their representatives who counsel and vote with us on the Permanent Comm ittee.

We were surprised last spring at our regular meeting at Fond du Lac to have with us only one representative from the Women, and our surprise turned to pain when we learned that the other representatives had been officially notified by the Executive Committee of the Synodical Society that said Committee had voted at a recent meeting withdrawing from our Permanent Committee of Synod.

We desire now to express our earnest hope that such action was hasty and did not represent the feeling of the Synodical Society, and we most earnestly ask that this action of the Executive Committtee be not sustained by the Synodical Society now in session. We all recognize that all committees are the creatures and servants of the bodies appointing them, and that the action of any committee in the interm between meetings of the body appointing it is subject to review by that body and to the approval or disapproval of that body. We, therefore, take it for granted that the above action of your commmittee, taken between the meetings of the Synodical Society, will be reported by them to this meeting for your Society for your approval or disapproval, and we respectfully appeal to you, under whose authority your Executive Committee exists, not to approve of that action last ~~year~~ spring.

Furthermore, we would courteously remind the Synodical Society that all religious activities by Presbyterians in this state are conducted under the authority of the Wisconsin Synod, and this includes our own Committee of Home Missions, all our churches, and all the auxiliary and allied organizations of men, women and youth, both on the local churches, Presbyteries and the Synod. The Wisconsin Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the U. S.A. is the highest court in this state under whose authority we all do our work. Now Synod created the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and and had that Committee incorporated under the laws of the state as a creature of the Synod, and both it's composition and largely its rules and methods of work are directed and officially controlled by vote of Synod. The Permanent Committee cannot change its own membership and the Executive Committee of the Woman's Synodical Society cannot change composition of Permanent Committeee nor the rules of Synod. Now it is one of the rules of Synod that six women are officially appointed on that Committee, one from each Presbyterial Society and the President of the Synodical Society. Synod made that rule and Synod alone can change it. This is the gist of our reply to your Executive Committee last spring and it is the point of our appeal to you now. Your representatives on our Committee are still members of Synod's Comm ittee and we appeal to you to so instruct your representatives and request them to attend the regular meetings of our committee until Synod shall release them or change the rules.

Futhermore, we most earnestly plead with you to give us the benefit wisdom of your counsels and continue to cooperate with us in this work which we believe God has put upon us. In Jesus Christ there difference between men's and women's work. It is all a noble and

part of God's work which He has laid upon our shoulders.
We profoundly thankful to you and to the officers of your Executive Committee for the counsel and help they have been to us in the past and we pray God that whatever spirit actuated their vote of last spring in attempting to sever our hitherto happy relations has passed away and that your committee will find itself in accord with with your present meeting should your vote disapprove of their action.

(Signed) Geo.E. Hunt
Frank R. Upham

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Per file

October 15, 1918.

Mrs. W. H. Fitzgerald
512 Terrace Ave.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Fitzgerald:

Mrs. Gildersleeve has just returned from her trip in the middle west and has tried very briefly to tell me a little of what happened at the synodical meeting. It is not, of course, anything in which the Board can take part, but I cannot resist the temptation to write you a little note to say how very sorry I am that there has been this unpleasant situation and to urge upon you, that personal considerations shall be put aside and the good of the work only be considered. I know how difficult it may be for you to decide to continue your official position, but I very greatly trust that you may see your way to this. A general resignation would be calamitous. Can you and your officers not remain and work out this matter yourselves? I wish there were something that I could do to assist in this matter, but I fear that we are powerless; you, I know, can bring order out of what may seem like chaos and I pray that you may feel that this is still your work.

With very cordial and loving good wishes,

believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

MKB/D

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November 13, 1918.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State St.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Yale,

I am more than sorry that there has been so great a delay in replying to your letter of October 22nd; I trust this will not have embarrassed you. The epidemic depleted our force much - first my Secretary was away and then Mrs. Gildersleeve became a victim of influenza and I very much wanted further information from her before writing.

I wish that I had at hand a copy of the Articles of Incorporation of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Synodical Missionary Society that I might know the exact status thereof. Synodical and Presbyterial organizations are usually unincorporated and somewhat informal bodies; they are auxiliary to the parent Boards in the sensethat they agree to secure funds for the work of those agencies, the Boards, in return, agreeing - by implication rather than by formal agreement - to provide them with information, directions, and speakers. In recognition of this mutual relationship the Woman's Board of Home Missions says in its By-Laws:

> "Advisory Vice-Presidents. Each Synodical President shall be an Advisory Vice-President of the Board. Synodical Societies having from fifty to one hundred woman's missionary societies shall be entitled to one other advisory vice-president in addition to the Synodical President; societies having more than one hundred woman's missionary societies shall be entitled to an additional advisory vice-president for every additional one hundred woman's missionary societies or major fraction thereof."

When, however, a Synodical society becomes an incorporated body it assumes certain fixed responsibilities which must govern its proceedure — although its voluntary relationship to a parent body may continue. This latter must be secondary to the legal claims, as you well know. I am simply reviewing this situation that we may be thinking together on the same lines.

As I have not at hand a copy of your Articles of Incorporation I am basing my further statements on my present understandings - which may, of course, be incorrect. The incorporated body, I understand, to be a Board of Directors made up of a rather large group of women from various parts of the State; this body is self-perpetuating, that is, fills its own vacancies, elects its own officers and transacts all business. The Synodical Society accepts as its officers, the officers of the Board of Directors and the Synodical Society when meeting <u>as a Synodical Society</u> does not elect officers, vote on funds, etc. Am I correct in this?

I further understand, from your letter, that Article 3, Section 4, of your By-Laws, relative to the election of members of Synod's Home Mission

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Mrs. H. P. Yale. November ~~20~~, 1918.

Committee has not been changed, but that it still directs that "members of Synod's Home Mission Committee shall be elected at each annual meeting" - understanding that the reference is to the "annual meeting" of the Board of Directors, and not of the Synodical Society.

These points are very evident to you, of course, but I do want to make sure that I am clear on the facts lest my further words be based on false premises. I have felt this to be of great importance as I was told that it was being "claimed that all business should be transacted and all officers elected at the Synodical meeting, and not by the Board of Directors as has been their custom". But if Wisconsin Synodical has incorporated and named a group of women to represent it, the voting and legally responsible people can only be those named in the Articles of Incorporation, or their successors. The Woman's Board of Home Missions, as you know, was not incorporated until three years ago; until it was, the voting body at its annual meeting was a most elastic group - any delegate could vote. Now, as an incorporated body, the voting number must be confined to forty-five. The situation with Wisconsin Synodical seems identical.

As an incorporated body you are independent of us - voluntarily you are auxiliary to the Woman's Board and we gladly welcome that relationship, the Synodical Society being technically the auxiliary I suppose, and not the Board of Directors. I would understand that your relationship to the Synod of Wisconsin is a similar one: legally, as an incorporated body, you are quite independent of Synod except in so far as your charter or By-Laws recognises a relationship, but that as a Synodical Society you have a voluntary relationship to Synod. Mr. Hunt is correct I think in saying "that all religious activities by Presbyterians .... are conducted under the authority of the Wisconsin Synod." It would be possible for any group to work outside of such authority, but we all gladly recognize Presbyterian proceedure as conducive to the orderly and helpful conduct of the work of the Church. We all gladly recognize this - personally I have never known of a case when Synod has exercized toward a Synodical Socity a restrictive judgment; rather the attitude shown is always of cordial approval and hearty cooperation.

Other Synodical Societies do not have a dual relationship as they are not incorporated; most of them would have an Executive Committee, subject to the oversight of the Synodical Society, but in Wisconsin, I reiterate, I do not understand this to be so - because of the incorporation.

As the Permanent Committee of Home Missions of the Synod is also an incorporated body and as one of the Rules which govern it provides that "six women are officially appointed on that Committee, one from each Presbyterial Society and the President of the Synodical Society", I understand that the action of your Board of Directors on December 5, 1917, was a request "to be relieved from official membership in the committee", and asking that the rules governing the Committee be so altered as to admit of the omission of women members from the Committee. This, Synod - or the Committee - is disinclined to do and begs that the request be reconsidered; -- only I should say the request for reconsideration should have gone to the Board of Directors and not to the Synodical Society, the former being the body that took action. The representation on Synod's Committee has been recognised in the past by the women; if Synod now declines to alter its rules, I hardly see how you can refuse to continue the relationship. They can appoint - so far as I can see - any five women as long as one comes from each Presbytery. The Synodical President is a member by virtue of her office - and Synod's rule.

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Mrs. H. P. Yale. November 13, 1918.

We always feel that close cooperation between the men and women is desirable; if the women find that the attendance of six women at the meetings of the Home Missions Committee is too expensive, would not Synod agree to have only two or three women on the Committee?

While I realize the possibly temporary embarrassment of meeting together, I do feel that it would be unfortunate for the women to withdraw from the Committee of Home Missions:-

First - because I believe the union should have a real value to the cause of Home Missions in Wisconsin and

Second - because if Synod desires this union, I feel that as loyal Presbyterians the Presbyterian women's organizations should acquiesce.

I have had to preface my brief statement of our view-point by a long explanation, and even yet I may not have seized the point that is the real issue. It seems to me, however, that I can only advise that by meeting together and talking over fully and frankly that a basis for mutual cooperation be found. We should much deplore the withdrawal of the women from Synod Committee of Home Missions against the judgment of the men.

With every sincere hope that matters may speedily be adjusted to your mutual satisfaction, I am,

Most cordially yours,

President.

AKB/L.H.

OCT 2 1918

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin
(INCORPORATED)

P

Milwaukee, Oct 22, 1918.

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My dear Mrs. Gildersleeve,

The meeting of the Board of Directors for the election of officers of the Synodical Society for the year 1918-1919 was not held at Wausau as originally planned. A further postponement has resulted owing to the establishment of the quarantine in Milwaukee and elsewhere throughout the State.

Two directors can call a meeting and Mrs. H. J. McElroy, First Vice-President, will issue a call as soon as allowable.

Meanwhile I would like some official information, if the Woman's Board of Home Missions will kindly furnish it, to present at that meeting.

Our Woman's Synodical Society of

Wisconsin is auxiliary to our Woman's Board of Home Missions and to the Woman's Presbyterian Board of Missions of the Northwest, and to the Board for Freedmen.
This relationship has at all times been a most happy one.
The position of our Woman's Synodical Missionary Society as regards the Synod of Wisconsin is the point at issue, upon which I desire enlightenment.
After your Statement made at Wausau regarding the independent and successful workings of Synodical Societies in other States, I can not personally accept Dr. Hunt's decision. (Manuscript enclosed.)
As a Statement of the facts regarding our elimination from our By-Laws of this clause — Sec. 4 - Art. 3, Committees, it is incorrect.

In addition to the regular nominations, members of Synod's Home Mission Committee shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting, one from each of the five Presbyteries, nominations to be made from the floor, it being understood that the President shall be a member, ex-officio, of this Committee.

Notice of this action was given by Mrs. C.A. Maynard, Chairman of the Committee on Incorporation and By-Laws at the Annual Meeting at Beloit, Oct. 9, 1917.

Mrs. Maynard after explaining the expense attendant upon the sending of representatives to Synod's Home Mission Committee and the fact that our work is now intensive presented the following motion: "That we defer the election of members of Synod's Home Mission Committee until the December meeting of the Board of Directors."

Carried.

The question was presented to the Board of Directors at the meeting Dec. 5, 1917 and it was decided to withdraw from membership in that committee. The vote was unanimous.

Motion adopted at the meeting of the Board of Directors held Dec. 5, 1917 at Milwaukee.

"Whereas: The work of the Woman's Synodical Society in the State has been

changed in its methods during the past year resulting in intensive work for women and children in Gogebic parish:

And whereas: in the interest of economy and conservation of effort it seems wise for us to withdraw from our official membership in Synods' Home Mission Committee:

I move that: while being most loyal to Synods' committee and glad to co-operate with it in any way possible through conference with our President, or other executive officer: we ask to be relieved from official membership in the committee; also that this request be forwarded by our corresponding Secretary to the Chairman of Synods' Home Mission Committee."

Respectfully submitted

(Mrs. L.A.) Sarah D. Maynard

(Copy sent immediately to Chairman of Com.)

The question was never at any time brought before the executive committee to which Rev. Hunt continually refers.
In correspondence between Dr. D. J. Williams and the corresponding secretary of the Woman's Synodical Society this mistake on their part was corrected, but the gentlemen persist in referring to the action of the Executive Committee!

You understand, "the splendid financial help of the women" which Dr. Hunt mentions so kindly.

Our Synodical Society was incorporated in 1901 in order to receive and administer the Vaughn-Marquis legacy.
During the past year $1200.00 was paid for the salary of Miss Sarah De Cou, a worker on the Gogetic Field; $3000.00 has been paid toward the $6000.00 community building (a memorial to Emeline E. Vaughn-Marquis) at Ramsay, now in process of construction

under the supervision of Dr. W. P. Shriver.
$3000.- more has been promised by
the Synodical Society from the income
of the present year (1918), to complete
this building.
Thus you see to what uses the
funds accruing from the Vaughn-
Marquis legacy are employed.

An early reply to my inquiries
will be highly appreciated.

Sincerely and gratefully yours,
(Mrs. H.P.) Blanche R. Gale

398 Royal Place. S
~~518 Terrace Avenue~~
Milwaukee
November Ninth.

My dear Mrs. Bennett -

I am still

please pardon my negligence
in not acknowledging your
kind letter before but those
have been such busy days
I have had many letters
and ^ answer must
^ emergency work during
the Influenza epidemic.

It is sad that things
have to be brought about by sorrow
before we can appreciate, what has
been & must be if moved
around but those that
are doing the work & doing
it for Reasons not attended
Millings & Power, rich are
above every thing but the
Millions Latter in Heaven

to pull down our policy. Some
be glad my views about it & Intelligent
My self & the Criticism again of
Women who be for the Rights
Equality their Mistake —
The Home Missionary problem has
been a hard one but we have
done our best & felt be done
just setting it a point where
our Work for women & children
Pacific Range has been & just
how in a better light with the
Woman's Board but so many
more women through the State have
been in Synods Home Mission Committee
this just put us down & in not
Equal & not about it. We will
understand I know. Thanking for

In "Wisconsin" file

November 13, 1918.

Mrs. W. L. Fitzgerald,
398 Royal Place,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Fitzgerald,

I have realized what a temptation it has been to withdraw from the Synodical organization but I do feel disturbed and greatly disturbed that you have given up your relation to the Synodical Society as I understand from your letter that you have done. I would be more than glad to know who has been elected and how the matter stands at present. I was at "156" yesterday and there seemed to have been no later word from Wisconsin to indicate what had transpired at the meeting of the Board of Directors which we understood was to be called. We can only pray that in some way good may come out of this unhappy situation and trust that time may heal many things that it seems impossible for us to understand. I am sure that your interest in Home Missions will continue strong and steadfast, and I want you to know that our affection and thoughts will ever be with you.

Believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

MKB/LH.

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin
(INCORPORATED)

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Milwaukee, Dec. 14th, 1918.

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

The situation that I had expected would confront us at the postponed annual election did not arise, but will have to be met at the annual meeting in 1919, which will be held at Neenah.

Before the close of the session at Wausau the decision was made to work under the old articles of incorporation and By-Laws for the coming year.

Mrs. Gildersleeve was at this meeting and I wrote directly to her thinking that She had understood the situation and could supply much that I would prefer not to relate.

Meanwhile, upon the receipt of your reply I learned that She had not been in the room during that part of the discussion. This

necessitate my stating some very unpleasant facts.

To refer to your letter: "The Synodical Society accepts as its officers, the officers of the Board of Directors and the Synodical Society when meeting as a Synodical Society does not elect officers, vote on funds etc. Am I correct in this?" Perfectly. The business has been conducted at the quarterly Board of Directors meetings. An executive meeting always precedes the March B. of D. meeting and occasionally the others. At the March meeting our Treasurer has a report from the administrators of the Vaughn-Marquis estate indicating the probable amount our society will receive for the year. This is then discussed and appropriations suggested which are later recommended to the Board of Directors. This body of 105 Directors represents women from each Presbyteral Society As an incorporated body, Milwaukee has been recognized as the headquarters.

On two instances we have received invitations to hold the quarterly B. of D. meetings elsewhere. Once

at Oshkosh, again at Waukesha. Both of these invitations were accepted without question. At times we have had representatives from two Presbyterial Societies other than Milwaukee, present at these meetings.

The notifications are always sent one week or longer in advance of the meeting to all Directors.

At the Board of Directors meeting called at the close of the annual meeting of the Synodical Society, business is transacted and the election of officers takes place.

Again — from your letter, "I further understand that Art. 3, Sec. 4, of your By-Laws, relative to the Election of members of Synod's Home Mission Committee has not been changed, but that it still directs that "members of Synod's H. M. Com. shall be elected at each annual meeting" understanding that the reference is to "Annual meeting" of the W. M. S., and not of the Syn. Society."

At the Annual Meeting at Beloit Oct. 1918 —

Mrs. C. A. Maynard, then Chm. of the Com. of Incorporation and By-Laws, after explaining the expense attendant upon the sending of representatives to S. N. M. Com. and the fact that our work is now in train, presented the following motion: "That we defer the election of members of S. N. M. Com. until the Dec. quarterly meeting." Carried.

Notice was hereby given and the coming action of the Society indicated. Following this, the motion was made by Mrs. C. A. Maynard at the Dec. B. of D. meeting that we withdraw; this motion was embodied in my letter of Oct. 27th to Mrs. Gildersleeve.

The unanimous action of the B. of D. in adopting this motion, Eliminated that clause - above quoted - from our By-Laws. So representatives to S. N. M. Com. were not elected.

Notice of this action was sent at once to Rev. D. J. Williams, Chm. of N. M. Com.

Again, "I was told that it was being claimed that all business should be transacted" and all

officers elected at the Synodical meeting and not by the B. of D. as has been their custom."
I will send you a copy of "the Presbyterian" and you will see the amendments as proposed; which came up at Warsaw Oct. 8, 1918. Will also send the Syr. Presbyterian giving changes to be acted upon Oct. 1919.
When the amendments were offered to the society, Mrs. D. J. Williams the pastors wife and our hostess took the floor and the controversy commenced.
Mrs. Maynard, a most able parliamentary was dignified and gracious. Nothing can ruffle her outward calm.
Mrs. Fitzgerald was seated upon the platform.
Mrs. Williams had changes she wished made — Mrs. Maynard explained the necessity for conducting the business as had been done because your being an incorporated body. Others ably assisted Mrs. Wms. in her demands.
Incorporation or no incorporation they wanted their own way. The situation was hopeless from the beginning. They wanted all the business of the year brought to them

at the Annual Meeting in Oct.

Mrs. Maynard explained again that our income should not lie idle from Mar. until October. We continued a little further.

Art. VI Sect. I Meetings – the clause (unless otherwise determined by the B. of D.), caused discussion.

Mrs. Gildersleeve came to the rescue here and that was allowed to remain. In regard to the election of officers, the phrase "within 10 days after the annual meeting of the Society" was another stumbling block. They wanted the election during the annual meeting. Mrs. Maynard told them the election was always planned to be held at the Annual Meeting – that the phrase "10 days etc." was customarily used in the By-Laws of an incorporated body. No explanation was satisfactory.

From the minutes of the meeting in Beloit 1917. I quote, "Immediately following the adjournment, our President called a meeting of the Board of D. Officers for the coming year were elected and other business transacted."

A resident supporter of Mrs. Williams declared, "we did not hold the election at Fond du Lac ~~the~~ 2 ~~previous~~ years previous and had never done so." The election did not take place at Fond du Lac because the President, Mrs. Carrier, had the program so poorly in hand that we were obliged to call the B. of D. meeting at 5 o'clock and then adjourn it to Milwaukee in order to get the late train. Had the program proceeded on scheduled time, the election would have taken place. At Wausau the business would have been concluded, the B. of D. meeting held, officers elected, & other business transacted so as to leave us all free to enjoy the two day program arranged for us by our Boards.

The conduct of the resident women defeated the very object they desired to attain.

Section by section, objections were raised. Then Mrs. Fitzgerald was called to the phone and a few minutes later, Rev. Hunt appeared asking permission to address the meeting. (Rev. Hunt is one of the oldest men in the State and has been for years on that Com. His manner always antagonizes and Mrs. Evans, Pres. Pres. of Madison Society, came to me Wed. morning

and said "Alas. her pastor She could not endorse what he did. He was so facless and she was so sorry to see him come in.
Mrs. Fitzgerald told him he might return at 4 o'clock.
He left, but returned shortly.
Mrs. F. recognized him and if you can imagine his manner in addition to his words, you may know what we endured. The applause was enlightening.
Mrs. Maynard told Rev. Hunt that Synod could appoint representatives if they chose. Also that while she had been President she had twice gone to these meetings and had not been invited in to the room when the meetings were being held.
The business proceeded — many things were said which were out of place in a gathering of Christian women. Finally, after Mrs. Williams told Mrs. Maynard that a business man had laughed at one Section she had shown him and that our Articles and By-Laws did not agree, Mrs. Maynard told the ladies that as we were still in Session they could vote to reconsider all that had taken place. Mrs. Laughlin the pastor's wife from

Ushkosh did so, and the work of the afternoon was effaced.

Meanwhile one woman, so loud and noisy (but the only one who had the grace to publicly arise the next morning and apologize for her conduct) wanted the members of the nominating committee elected at the Prest. meetings and not appointed by the President.

A little more of this and Mrs. Fitzgerald, a perfect lady in every situation, arose and tendered her resignation to take effect immediately.

Mrs. Maynard then said a new com: must be appointed and Mrs. Williams requested Mrs. Maynard to act as Chairman. Needless to say, She declined.

The com. was appointed, Mrs. L. D. Mishoff Chm. Since She is now President, Mrs. D. J. Williams is Chm.

In every instance the desire was to reduce the power of the Syn. Pres. and to give greater power to the Prest. Societies. (The objections raised were evidently all suggested by the men, for the women proved themselves too poorly informed to carry a discussion.)

We were plainly told by Mrs. Williams that this dissatisfaction was felt not alone in Winnebago and Madison but elsewhere. Mrs. Laughlin of Oshkosh added that it existed all over the State.

It is not a question of the number of women, nor the need of representation that com. from this Society. That is only polite camouflage, the real voice is in the background.

There has been a constant desire to spare in the income of the Vaughn-Marquis legacy since it came into the possession of this Soc. Syn. — necessitating the society's incorporation. This present situation was inevitable. Various gifts were made the com. from time to time. The salary of workers was paid, in every instance our obligations were met. Meanwhile we were striving to find some essentially woman's work which we could undertake and support.

Two years ago at Fond du Lac we saw this trouble coming. Mrs. Gildersleeve was present.

Mrs. Wm. Mainland of Oshkosh made the

recommendation to the executive committee (here these words are first used which occur so frequently in Rev. Hunt's message) "that all of the W.M. income over $1500." (the salary and expenses of the woman worker on the Gogebic Field) "go to mission centers in Chippewa Presbytery." Otherwise to S. H. M. Com. for the payment of pastor's salaries. It was never acted upon.

Rev. D. J. Williams was then the pastor at Oshkosh. Rev. Laughlin, who succeeded Rev. Wms. was formerly a Prof. at Carroll College Waukesha.

Need I make any comment?

"From the income of over* 6000. of the W.M. Legacy for 1916-1917, One Thousand Dollars was given S. H. M. Com. to re-imburse them for the amount they contributed to the Gogebic Parish the past year. By so doing we may have a pioneers interest in this work."

Since that time no funds have been given S. H. M. Com., since this precipitated action at Wausau.

That a permanent memorial to Mrs.

* Sec. Leg. Minutes.

Vaughn Marquis may be erected $3000. was set aside.
(another was one meme gave us an additional
$685. for 1917-1918. These sums two successive
years precipitated our troubles.
From these monies the (Vaughn-Marquis Memorial) community building at
Ramsay Michigan has been erected at a cost of $700.
and will be opened we hope, at Christmas time.
The Cast Steel Mining Co., gave the concrete foundation,
representing $1000., one of the firm being the son of a
friend of Mrs. Fitzgerald.
Rev. Farries says that the building could not be
duplicated for $10000. The people of Ramsay and
community (18 Nationalities in vacation Bible School)
will contribute the $200. to amplify the furnishings.
We feel the money wisely invested and Mrs. F.'s
plan, was after dedication to turn the Bldg. over
to the Synod of Mich. We little know what a day
will bring forth.
The result of this interesting episode at
Wasau was that our President resigned,

all executive officers declined re-election,
also 4 Directors.
The election of officers was returned to Milwaukee.
After such an arraignment the Mil. officers
felt the work should be carried by the women
of Winnebago Presb. Society, who were so rich in
ideas.
Mrs. M. H. Ott, Neenah was the choice of the
meeting and was elected but declined, giving her
health as the reason. She is most loyal to our Society
and to the Boards and would have been an ideal Pres.
Several women from Mil. Presb. Soc & one from
Winnebago (Mrs. Mainland) withdrew their names.
Mrs. L. D. Bishoff did not withdraw and was elected.
It has been very difficult to secure a quota of officers.
Mrs. B. G. Jackson, a pastor's wife, has accepted
as Cor. Sec'y. She 2nd elected.
Mrs. Jackson seems a very fine woman, they have
scarcely been in Wis. a year coming from Illinois.
She seems to be well trained, capable and will

undoubtedly give a fine administration.

Both ladies appointed "Associate Editor" of the Presbyterian have resigned, and our usual pages this month were accredited us with these words beneath our caption — "This society pays for three pages. No copy received for this month."

This magazine goes into practically every church in the State.

Our fine Secy. for Missionary Education, Mrs. Towner, moved to Iowa and is now Syn. Secy. there.

She recommended Mrs. Ella Willey, Galesville as an able successor. Mrs. Willey had consented to serve and was elected. Her resignation has been received.

The determination is to have the Presb. Soc. so represented that a certain share of the W.M. income will be voted S.N.W.M. Conv. each year.

This year our income will probably be less and as our income diminishes our troubles will decrease.

The March meeting will decide the issue.

We must be ready with some well prepared and attractive plan to present to our women

for the employment of these funds for the work for women and children, as is assigned us by our Woman's Boards.

We are trying to think of some work we can propose and will welcome any suggestions you may offer.

Unless we have some such idea that will appeal to these women, the race is lost.

One of our charter members, Mrs. J.E. Balding who was one of the first women to plan the work in Western Wisconsin, said, "It was like giving up a part of herself but there was no use struggling any longer. The men would get the money." Many of us feel the same. Mrs. Balding, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Bacon & Mrs. Sell resigned as Directors.

Under such leaders as Mrs. Vedder, Mrs. Maynard and Mrs. Fitzgerald the work of this organization has moved on so smoothly, that to outsiders it has appeared a very simple matter to conduct its affairs! The

change may result in a broader and
fuller understanding and more generous
treatment of the officers of the future.
We are sincerely grateful for your counsel
and assistance.

Most cordially yours,
(Mrs. H. P.) Blanche R. Yale

A copy of the Year Book containing the
Articles and By-Laws, also two issues of
"The Presbyterian" will go to you in a
separate packet.

398 Royal Place.
~~312 Terrace Avenue~~ Brooklyn
December 31st 1889

Dr. Mrs. Dr. Bennett.

Dear Sir
I will have heard that Dr.
Imhoff has elected President
of the Medical Society, the
Building has changed in
being built & the
influenza - Dr. Imhoff has
been a most efficient Pre-
sident for many years -
I have left at the meeting

In the Name then Amen
I the day per Anno & Less of
the Reign of the Sovereign
& Majesty of the Province of
Maine for & that of this Province
& Little about I the Subscriber
Inhabitant of
Ino. Motley is Conscientious
& willing & perhaps the
the Province Should leave
Worlds the Province of the
State & the Inhabitants Province
is about equal, I do the Will
give for Other things -
Rich- the Lessor further Name Ben Crosby
Lessee & Executors Lessee & Executors

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December 26, 1918.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Yale,

I have read with much interest your letter of December 14th and have studied the accompanying Constitution and By-Laws with the proposed amendments. How tragic it is that money given for the furtherance of the coming of the Kingdom of Christ on earth should be the cause of dissension among those who are serving! I can quite realize that those of you who have been on the inside all these years have seen the present situation coming but to those of us who have only known the surface, it has appeared as a most unexpected and dreadful climax. I have known the women who have led in Home Mission work in Wisconsin for many years; more than twenty years ago I was with Mrs. Vedder in her home and since that time have known the active women and so I feel this in a more personal way than I would were it in some synodical organization that I had not known personally.

The amendments to the proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws are extremely enlightening as to the feeling among those present. It has been wise, however, I should think, that no changes of any kind should be adopted during a meeting where such heated discussion had taken place. The women returning to their homes, will have time to think through this matter definitely and it may be that wiser counsel will prevail. Whatever the decision finally, it will be one taken with cooler judgment than was possible at Wausau but I dread the meetings that must follow. We must pray earnestly that there be wise counsel and temperate speech.

In your letter you spoke of the need of some "well-prepared and attractive plan to present to our women for the employment of these funds for the work for women and children as is assigned us by our Woman's Boards". I am wondering whether the terms of the Vaughn-Marquis will made it necessary that all the income should be used in Wisconsin and also whether the principal must be held intact or whether the Board of Directors are at liberty to invest the principal in a permanent Memorial or building elsewhere. I ask these questions especially because you have said in your letter that you would be glad for suggestions from the Woman's Board and while I think I understand your present situation now, I am not certain as to the terms of the will, neither did I feel certain after reading your last letter, whether you might have in mind a suggestion that some of the money might be used for other work than that within the state of Wisconsin. I am afraid that for work in your own State we could not help you as you know that very much better than than do we and I, for one, would not be willing to advise without taking time for a rather extensive survey of conditions. That the needs of Wisconsin are great, we know -- they are all over the land but specifically where to use these funds I should be unprepared to say. We can suggest forms of work that have been tried out in other places, perhaps, but meanwhile I would be glad to know whether you have at all in mind the using of any of the funds elsewhere than in your own state.

I have appreciated very greatly your writing me so much in detail

Mrs. H. P. Yale. December 26, 1918.

in this matter and I want to thoroughly understand that which is happening in regard to affairs in your synodical society and to be of any help that I can in relation thereto. I am sure you will not hesitate to let me know if there is anything at all that I can do. Meanwhile, I am not writing to any of the new officers -- I feel so uncertain just what it would be wise for me to say that I am saying nothing.

With deep appreciation of the splendid spirit shown by the women who have been attacked, believe me that I am

Most faithfully yours,

MKB/LEH

December 26, 1918.

Mrs. W. E. Fitzgerald,
398 Royal Place,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Fitzgerald,

I have heard that Mrs. Mishoff was elected President of the Wisconsin Synodical Society and a long letter from Mrs. Yale has told me somewhat in detail of the situation that has arisen. I cannot tell you how disturbed I am for it cannot but be that there is a great deal of personal unhappiness because of all this and in addition, I so greatly fear that the Cause of Home Missions will be injured. It is not easy to live at a high plane of right doing when there is an under current of bad feeling. If there were anything that could be accomplished by sending an officer from New York, we should be more than glad to do it but so far, I have not seen where we could be of any assistance by intruding ourselves into a local situation. If there is, however, anything by which you know we can help, I trust you will not hesitate to call upon us.

Though you will not be officially connected with the Synodical Society, we know that your interest and cooperation will ever be with us and I hope you will understand how very greatly we deplore losing you from the official connection.

With every cordial good wish for the Season, believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

MKB/LEH

President.

~~446~~

~~Feb. 5~~ 4.

Milwaukee, ~~Jan 23~~ 1919.

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

We so appreciated your sympathetic words and feel assured you are anxious to assist us in any way possible.

The group of women who relinquished the work were those who had served years of apprenticeship under dear Mrs. Vrooder and were ably qualified to direct and go forward with the work of the organization.

Mrs. Fitzgerald's desire was for our women to carry on essentially women's work, as through out these many years it has been known that we could not avoid more or less friction with Synods' Home Mission Committee.

Our executive committee meeting should precede the March Board of Directors meeting (March 5th) - when plans for the coming years work should be discussed.

Mrs. F. J. McElroy, Vice-President of Home Missions (and

who carried all the responsibility of the work while First Vice-President under Mrs. Carrier)
will correspond with Rev. Harries (in charge of the work on the Cogebic Field) and ascertain whether a second woman worker could be employed to advantage. Also, she will have that plan to present. We now pay the salary and expenses ($1200.) of Miss Sarah De Cou who works under Rev. Harries direction.

The terms of the Vaughn-Wargnis will require the estate to be held in trust until the death of the last survivor then it is "to be divided equally between the Presbyterian B. of Foreign Missions of the N.West Room 548 Chicago, Ill.; the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions of the State of Wisconsin; the Presbyterian Board of aid for Freedmen; and the Presbyterian Board of aid for colleges."
There was no "Presb Board of Home Missions of the State of Wisconsin", but the court decided the intention was to give the legacy to the Womans Synodical Society.

Will admitted to probate — Mar. 6, 1901.

Memorandum of Personal Property at hand Mar. 15, 1906.

V. M. Estate

Bonds		$ 1100. 00
Real Estate, Mortgages, Land Contracts, Notes		45795. 00
Bank Stock		2730. 00
St. Ry. + Light Co's Stock		8500. 00
York-State Iron Co., (Mining Stock)		105100. 00
Bayland and Sup. Co. Stock		750. 00
Cash		476. 58
		$ 163 75. 58
Real estate at appraised value		62745. 00
		$ 226496. 58
Rich Highland Ry. + L. Co., Doubtful	$ 8500.	
Notes + Chicago Land	2500.	
Bayland Sup. Co. — no value	250	11250. 00
		$ 215246. 58

4.

Income from Vaughn-Barnes legacy.

1903 —	$ 986.88
1904 —	319.59
1905 —	73.57
1906 —	509.47
1907 —	2010.93
1908 —	3352.70
1909 —	1351.23
1910 —	3124.79
1911 —	4377.24
1912 —	1748.18
1913 —	3793.40
1914 —	2793.48
1915 —	1008.82
1916 —	2469.91
1917 —	6536.34
1918 —	6885.47
1919 —	?

We receive our share of the income until the final division occurs.

The use to be made of this income rests entirely with our executive committee whose action must be ratified by our Board of Directors. It would be an impossibility to suggest using it outside of our Missionary field.

Our elder group of women know the provisions of this will and the amount involved; the N. W. Com. I scarcely think has gone into the matter deeply; the last two years income has been the smallest and the possibilities of that of 1919.

Mrs. Prissert, our treasurer, has had word recently from Rev. Harries that a second woman worker is needed and can be well employed; there is need for another building at the Nico-Plymouth location, so that offers another means for using part of the years income.

Two years ago we put aside $1000. in a Liberty

Bond, as the nucleus of a sinking fund.
Have now another $500. bond in that fund.
This year more should be added to this fund, but it is almost an impossibility to convince some of the necessity for such a measure. Every dollar should be appropriated each year, leaving a depleted Treasury.

Should this division occur at any time, and no income be received for the year during the settlement of the estate, what will maintain the work being carried on? You can not secure funds at a moments' notice, without sacrifice.

The situation does not improve.

A meeting of the executive com. of the Home Mission Committee of Synod was held in Milwaukee Tuesday Jan. 28th.

During a conversation between D. J. Williams & T. H. Edwards, these three points were spoken of: 1– The "Milwaukee women" had

controlled the situation long enough;
2nd – they were not interested in the reports of the secretaries given at the Annual Meeting;
3rd – the elections did not take place at the Annual meeting, but were held to suit the officers.
Just at present, one might question by what authority D. J. Williams constituted himself the one to determine the policy to be followed by the Womans Synodical Society?
Mr. Edwards was uninformed; his wife (Milwaukee) was the able Presbyterial Cor. Secy. for many years, and when her husband told her of this conversation her indignation knew no bounds.
To refer to the 2nd point – if they are not interested in the work of the organization, in what does their interest consist?
3rd point: The records of this society from that from 1900 to 1914 (inclusive) the elections were always held at the time and place of the Annual Meeting of this Society.

The Annual Meeting was held in Milwaukee in 1915. The adoption of the new constitution, (with its 105 Directors) necessitated an adjourned annual meeting which was held Nov. 10th.

From the minutes Oct. 13-14, 1915:

Mrs. Fitzgerald offered the following resolution which was passed by the Society: "Whereas these Articles of Incorporation must be accepted and recorded at the State Department in Madison before becoming the legal rule of the procedure of this Society; I move that when we do adjourn we adjourn to meet on Wednesday November 10th at 10 a.m. in Immanuel Church, Milwaukee."

xxx The adjourned annual meeting was held, directors elected; the meeting adjourned — resolved itself into a meeting of the Board of Directors, whose duty was to elect the officers of the Society.

"On motion the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the Board of Directors for the officers named by the nominating committee."

Annual Meeting held in Fond du Lac, 1916.

Following the adjournment of the Annual Meeting "Immediately a meeting of the Board of Directors was called".

"As the nominating committee was not ready to report it was voted to adjourn until Thursday, Oct. 26 at 10:30 o'clock in Calvary Church, Milwaukee, when the election of officers will occur."

Correction of above made at adjourned meeting of B. of D. Oct. 26, 1916, Mrs. Carrier in the Chair.

"Mrs. Maynard corrected the statement in regard to the report of the Nominating committee being necessary before proceeding to the election of officers. Attention was called to our By-Laws.

"The Nominating committee shall present names of those willing to serve as Directors, Advisory Vice-Pres. of Home Board and Auxiliary Vice-Pres., B. of the W. W. Presenting names for officers is not within the province of the nominating committee." * * * *

"The election of officers was the next business of the meeting.

While a president was being elected, Mrs. Carrier retired and Mrs. McElroy, first vice-president, took the chair. A method of nominating was called for. Mrs. Maynard suggested the nominations be made from the floor. Three nominations for president were thus made: Mrs. Carrier, Mrs. McElroy, Mrs. Fitzgerald. Mrs. Carrier receiving a majority of the votes cast was declared elected. A motion was made and carried that the vote be unanimous."

Minutes of Annual Meeting of B. of D. Beloit Oct. 9, 1917

The meeting of the B. of D. of the W.S.M.S. was called immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Society for the transaction of business and the election of officers for the coming year. Seventy Directors were present. xxx The election of officers followed. Nominations for the office of President were called for from the floor. Mrs. F.W. Ells placed the name of Mrs. W.E. Fitzgerald in nomination. Seconded by Mrs. W. Lane. Other nominations were called for. None being made Mrs. C.A. Maynard was called to the chair while the ballot was taken. The result was unanimous, the Secy. was instructed to cast the ballot & Mrs. W.E. Fitzgerald was declared duly elected President.

From minutes of Annual Meeting Beloit 1917:

"The final roll call resulted as follows:

Chippewa Presbyterial Society			6
La Crosse	"	"	1
Madison	"	"	46
Milwaukee	"	"	22
Winnebago	"	"	11. "

The calling of a "Board of Directors meeting and the election of officers in Oct. 1918 rested entirely with those present at the Annual Meeting. The "Milwaukee women disclaim any responsibility in this instance. We wish D. Williams would inform himself before making such sweeping Statements.

Enclosed you will find the current number of "the Presbyterian".

Mrs. McElroy's insistence brought about a meeting of the "Plan of Work" committee and the Executive meeting referred to.

The recommendations of the executive committee will be presented at the Board of Directors meeting March 5th.

Deeply grateful dear Mrs. Bennett, for your kindly sympathy, I remain

Yours most Sincerely,

(Mrs. N.P.) Blanche R. Yale

As yet, we have no Syn. Secy. for Missionary Education.

(The election would have taken place at Hawaii had not the unexpected situation developed.)

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March 1, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Yale,

Your very comprehensive and careful explanation of the situation in Wisconsin came to me promptly and I am extremely sorry that it has had to be held until this late date before even acknowledging its receipt but the New Era meetings with all the additional work which those have brought, have made it impossible for me to keep up my desk work. The last New Era meeting for me was yesterday and now I am packing my trunk preparatory to leaving for almost a month's trip in the Southwest in the interest of some of our work in the Mission Field.

As there seems nothing further that I can possibly do to be of any help in this matter I think there is nothing more that I can say except to assure you that when we can be of assistance we shall be most glad to be.. When there is a little time to go more into detail of things, I am wondering if it would not be advisable for us to send some very good, strong speaker into Wisconsin. Do you think that would be a help? If so, perhaps that would better be the thing that we would bear in mind.

With every cordial good wish, believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

EKB/LEH

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Pers file

July 8, 1919

Mrs. [illegible] Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Yale:

I am very sorry indeed but we have no records whatever here in the office which will give us any clue to the answers to the three questions concerning the relation of the Synodical Society and the Synod. I thought perhaps the Board of Home Missions in its Report on Self Supporting Synods might be able to help us out but their records too lack information on these points. The Stated Clerk in each Synod would of course be able to give you just what you want to know but that would necessitate your writing to each state. I am sorry.

With sincere hopes and earnest prayers that the situation in Wisconsin may speedily improve , I am with best wishes

Very sincerely yours,

General Secretary

Enc/
ERV/M

Mrs Yale was in office.

well, are excluded; also ex-Vice-Presidents.
Senators or Vice-Presidents were our graduate secretaries or other earnest women especially chosen for their interest and love of the work and for their executive ability. Delegates were chosen for their technical fitness and good judgment in deciding problems arising in the carrying on of the work.
If this constitution is adopted you can scarcely consider it a State organization — rather a corporation in the hands of 2 or 3 women subservient to N. W. C. W. Five to constitute a quorum.
During the early Spring Mrs. W. Ebon repeated to me a conversation she had had with Mrs. Hirst in which she told her that we of Milwaukee had been criticized because the State at large had not been given greater representation!

RECD APR 8 1910
ANS'D
By

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Dear Miss Hall,

Your kind interest in this matter is greatly appreciated and no doubt Mrs. Sleeper and I will divide honors on the correspondence necessary to clear this fact.

The withdrawal from membership on Equal Home Mission Committee precipitated the unfortunate situation in Wisconsin.

N. W. C. W. recognized the full

significance of this action and plans were formulated to do this.

D. L. Williams of Kansas was and is Chairman of that committee. Mrs. Williams was our speaker at the Kansas Meeting and was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Incorporation and By-Laws by Mrs. L. D. Wishard. (Mrs. Wm. H. has never been active in the Synodical and in the central in her policies.)

The clause requiring one member from each Presbyterial Society to be elected to serve upon S. V. M. Com. was then rescinded in the report to be submitted at Detroit Nov. 9-10, 1919.

Discussion will follow and the statistics from other States might be used to advantage to convince some women (instructed delegates are requested from each auxiliary) that woman's organizations can be successfully conducted without man's domination.

The copies of the report of this committee appeared in the July issue of the "Wo. Missionary".

While I was reading Mrs. Bennett's letter with copies of letters from 3 members of this committee which I can secure from Miss Wells.

While we were away Mr. Wells, Miss Wells' father, was operated upon successfully. Since then my time has been so occupied that I can ask to be excused, but will write to you soon.

The proposed personnel of the Executive com. is one of the most dangerous features of the. All reports, departments, from whom Executive work is demanded and who need advice occasionally as

Again, it is planned to do away with the regular quarterly meetings of the Society. This has been the custom always in Phoenix and though the programs given in connection, our gain in membership was made.

For years Mrs. Kidder — as President — entertained the Society at her home for all Board meetings — Served an elaborate luncheon — nine courses — and made sum $20 to $50 women present. They came from all over the State.

Mrs. C. D. Pannell, who recently passed away in N.Y., was another grand woman of the same type. She and Mrs. Kidder were the dearest of friends and were hand in hand in all good work.

Her custom was to ~~also~~ entertain the Society at her home every meeting — in her home. She never would be crowded to the doors.

There was no one in Phoenix or this state who did not know all about the Synodical Society and its work. Publicity pays.

She was a true — unique from any church [illegible] She served as an officer. The watchful spirit of the organization was commented upon. Mrs. Pannell's name will be no longer [illegible] permit her to continue the custom, she annually, mailed the treasurer a check for $100.00 for the contingent fund.

Those were the days of women who had in Women's work, for 25 years or more, and Served as the example for the younger women. The Annual meeting brings no happy anticipations. I can assure you — we can only

pray earnestly for guidance.

Again thanking you for your courtesy,

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrs. N. C.) Blanche R. Vale

Can you enlighten us on this point? Early in June, Mrs. Wessels read me a letter from Dr. W. D. Shriver in which he states that S.N.M. Com. has pledged $600. this year for work on Gogebic Field. Heretofore - last past years - they have never given me dollar.

Rev. Harries stated this fact - and later James moved me especially to be sure no mistake had been made. He re-iterated his first statement - if W.S.F.S. were the only ones who had given to the support of this work. For this very reason that our work was missionary & not such work as the W.M. Com. was doing - did we withdraw membership on this committee.

Why this change of heart on their part? What is their motive? To again have a reason for compelling representation with Com. from the W.S.M.S. - and to continue to keep a hold on the Society's finances?

It was due to Mrs. Fitzgerald's knowledge of this part of the field and its needs, that our funds were used where they could accomplish the greatest good.

2.

that there had been representation - that we had always aimed to be democratic; that if we were criticized under those circumstances we knew not what the criticism of present administration would be or such an autocracy as exists to-day has never been known in the history of this Society; that she expected even now some of the women who might have made objection to the Society had already altered their wills. (The ones who resigned were liberal supporters.)

This was rather plain speaking - but without doubt.

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Pac file

July 30, 1919

Mrs. H. P. Yale,

3011 State Street,

Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Yale:

Your letter giving further details of the unfortunate situation in Wisconsin has come just as I am leaving the office for a little vacation.

I am sorry that I cannot answer your question concerning Dr. Shriver's statement and the motive underlying such action of the Synodical Home Mission Committee of Wisconsin. Our treasury you know keeps no record whatever of work done locally and therefore has received no report of this particular pledge.

Aside from the anxiety which I know the situation in Wisconsin is causing I hope the summer is proving a very restful one.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

ERV/H

General Secretary

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin
(INCORPORATED)

657 Union Street
Appleton, Wis.
Aug. 12, 1919.

My dear Mrs Bennett:-

Please pardon me for intruding upon you, for advice at this time, but there are problems confronting us here in Wisconsin and it is that we may be ready to meet them wisely, that I ask your counsel.

This work is very dear to my heart - and it is that I may, perhaps, help others who do not understand some phases of the work, that I appeal to you for an interpretation - of what should a Synodical Executive Committee consist.

You have heard of the proposed

changes in the Constitution from
Mrs Gilderslum and Miss Crawford.
Perhaps the July copy of the Missionary
Presbyterian has also reached you,
in which these changes were printed.
If it has not and you so desire, I shall
gladly forward a copy.

I am "new" in the capacity of
recording secretary, but with a number
and many dear friends who have served
the society as officers, I cannot say
the work is entirely new for I have
grown up in it, so to speak.
Pardon that personal digression.
I do so hope to be able to really help.
Art III Sec 1. of the proposed Bylaws
as printed in July reads - "The standing
committees of this society shall be;
(1) An Executive Committee, to be
called upon need by the president,
which shall consist of the Executive
officers together with the presidents
of the Presbyterial societies. Five members

members of this committee shall
constitute a quorum. All recom-
mendations etc".

It is intended to do away with
our quarterly meetings and practically
all business will be done by this Executive
Committee who shall meet at the call of
the President. Each people (3 ex. officers
& Cradle. presidents) to do the work that
at least 30 have done before, subject to
the approval of the directors.

Heretofore all secretaries have
been members of the Executive Committee
as well as Directors. Although living
in places that made attendance at
meetings impossible, their advice
was always considered, especially if
problems pertained to their particular
department of the work.

Was it not the intent of the Board
to include the various secretaries of

Westminster Guild, Young People Missionary Education etc in the Executive Committee?

Question was asked on this point at our Wauwatosa Presbyterial meeting when Mrs D. J. Wilkinson chairman of this Committee on Incorporation and Bylaws, presented her draft of the amendments to be.

The same question will probably be asked at the Annual meeting in October and this time should be answered correctly and decisively.

At the Presbyterial meeting, Mrs Wilkinson said in reply, "The Board of Directors only hold property. & it is neither necessary or expedient that secretaries be members of the Board as their work is purely to enlarge, strengthen and unify the work of the Societies which is included in Art III of our Constitution" and she further quoted from a sample constitution issued by the Board of the Northwest. I have just received

a copy, which is merely suggestive for societies.

Personally I cannot see how the greatest good and most blessing can be attained if all departments are not represented at meetings. The problems and interests of all departments must be known. All officers should be informed, should they not?

The V. P. Secretary should know what is being accomplished by the Society of Young People and Ch. Work, and the Secty of Mis. Education should know about both and each understand the details of the work for better than the vice presidents, recording secretary or treasurer.

Upon this article also hinges the item of paying expenses to attend

Directors meetings - Executive meetings - and if that
Art II passes, the pro rata tax for
Contingent Fund must be raised.
~~Our~~ Your bill will surely be "busted".
That will mean that some of our
small societies up here in the
northern part of the state will do
less for missions, in fact they may
cease to exist altogether and we
cannot permit that. In fact at
the last quarterly meeting, the
president appointed a committee to
provide methods for increasing the
Contingent Fund. I have grave fears.

The "Handbook 1915" seems to
recognize the secretaries as Officers of
the Executive Committee. Could that
be used as authority?

I have written at length so you will
know how involved some points are.
Since I am in Minneapolis Quarterly and
have heard the arguments advanced, I
know we must have only the best and
surest authority, so will you kindly
refer me to any book or pamphlet

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin
(INCORPORATED)

that could be used as authority
or — interpret for us just
when, to be consistent and
in accord with the desires of
the Board, should comprise
a Synodical Executive Committee.

I would, it were possible, for
you to come and interpret in person,
if my sincerest wishes were known.

Thanking you, I am,
Very sincerely,
(Mrs L. C.) Florence Wisnet Sleeper

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society
of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin
(INCORPORATED)

657 Union St.
Appleton, Wis.
Aug 26, 1919.

My dear Mrs Bennett:-

By the same mail I am forwarding the Wisconsin Synodical Yearbook containing the Constitution and the Wisconsin Presbyterian containing the proposed amendments.

I should have sent them with my previous letter but understood you were to receive copies.

May I say in behalf of Miss Mills that her objections, referred to on page 4, and printed on page 8 in Presbyterian were in the nature of a letter, as a member of the Committee to the Chairman, not

intended as presented here, for printing. It is her intent to present a minority report at the Annual meeting.

Two members of this committee are not directors.

Up to this time there has been no called meeting of the Committee for a majority of its members to act. There has been, as I understand, no general discussion of the "whys and wherefores" The proposed constitution in the July Presbyterian with only minor changes was presented by letter to each member for signature.

The chairman also proposed that each member present it at her Presbyterial meeting for discussion.

Mrs D.J. Williams, Winnebago Presbytery was the only one to do so. As the women had no printed matter to follow, the discussion appeared to me, one sided.

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society

of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin

(INCORPORATED)

Perhaps you will understand better when I say that the Minutes of the Recording Secretary contain no item that indicates a report of the Committee at any time or any item concerning the expense of printing it on additional pages. Although the Constitution under which we are working says "The Government shall be vested in a Board of Directors." they have been ignored.

I have recently been going over the old records. The spirit is so different. Anything any proposed change was brought up in Executive meeting for discussion and then acted on in the quarterly meeting and the final vote at the Annual meeting.

Wisconsin law is not so definite

on many points as the laws of New York and other states regarding incorporated bodies. That is why, considering local conditions, distances etc 105 directors seemed more feasible. Statistics since Mch 1915 show we have had an actual average attendance at quarterly meetings of 54 out of 105 which seemed much more representative than a smaller proportion out of a proposed 45. It means wider interest although it is impossible to have it from all parts of the state.

Several Milwaukee women, not directors, requested hereby, this year, that the local societies are not encouraged to attend as previously.

The average attendance at Executive meetings since Mch 1915 has been 14. Milwaukee with its six churches & as many more from neighboring towns has always done the work. I find several of the states group about the large cities for their Executive officers and meetings.

3 Presbyteries have only been represented

at quarterly meting four times
Each presbyteries may represented
six times.

Two Presbyteries have only been
represented at Executive meting
four times, so you see how very
unjustly it will be to do any
business under the proposed
changes. (Art IV Sec 1 Constitution.)

But there is another point,
it is the intent if these changes
go into effect, to have the traveling
expenses of all officers attending
meetings (Bylaws Art III sec 1. and
Art I sec 2) paid from the
Contingent Fund (Art VII and
Bylaws Art II)

That was the reason for the
question about the secretaries.

It would be ideal, but is it practical?

Distances and present fares would more than deplete the Contingent Fund as stated in my previous letter.

Please pardon the details. I have tried to be brief so that you may know how worked some of these changes are and I have not even touched on some of the most vital. So much, so very much like back of some points, but I shall not go into further detail now unless you desire it; though I would so like advice.

There are many other more experienced and wiser heads to share this responsibility.

Thankfully yours for the interest and any helpful suggestions and advice I am,

Most sincerely,

(Mrs L. C.) Eunice N. Bluejacket

given Mrs. Williams assistance – representing
his wife on the committee. Mrs. Collins + Mrs.
Sanders are the other two.
Their endorsement of Mrs. Williams report is mis-
leading + outsiders. Miss Wells is the one
member of the committee, who has had experience
and knows what she is talking about.
The report has been prepared by Mrs. Williams + Mrs.
Bishoff. Two years ago at Emmanuel Church in June –
Mr. Bishoff was the one who agitated a change in
our constitution. Ten thereby the result.
We request to be instructed delegates, under complicated
by Situation. Last Fall I enclosed a Year Book containing
our Constitution – do not burden you with much of my
the Situation seems hopeless – we are loath to abandon the
work, yet can see no way to stem the tide.

Milwaukee, Aug. 2nd, 1909.

Too late to send out
Reynolds, dear Mrs Bennett
that we reached the burden
you met our troubles –
but now mail undoubtedly.
Kind appreciation,
Blanche R. Vale

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

Were we were on the coach I had so hoped that I might have a few words with yourself and ask your advice regarding our accumulating difficulties in Wisconsin.

The report of the committee on Articles &c to be presented to Mrs. Williams at Fernah is the cause of great uneasiness.

The accompanying magazine contains the report as to be presented.

Should this report be accepted will the existing provision for the Executive committee, it is not difficult to foresee the cessation of Wisconsin's work.

5 are to be a quorum — 3 a majority and the three that will outline the policy are not the ones in whom we can put our trust.

The objections of Miss Welles are not briefly outlined — She will present the minority report.

The secretaries of departments are to be on the committee — we are to have no advisory? Vice-presidents — Excluded from the Executive committee. In what sense will they be advisory?

The Executive committee are to be empowered to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. Is it not customary for a Board to fill the vacancies in its own body?

There seems to be no correlation of ideas — only one thought, to secure control. Were there intelligent control no one would question the change — but it is for power that.

Miss Welles left it to me, as a member of the committee, to give me copies of the letters which she holds and had shown me from 3 members of this committee. In different language each stated to Mrs. Villard their dissatisfaction with this work and relegated their part in the work to herself — that meaning she did not need their approval. Mr. Villard, a lawyer, has

September 5, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Mrs. Yale,

Your letter of August 27th did not reach me until yesterday as it was held at "156" as I was expected in each day. One of the officers of the Synodical Missionary Society of Wisconsin had written me a few days before your letter came, asking me some questions concerning the proposed amendements and my feeling in relation thereto and I have just dictated her my personal thought relative to the situation in Wisconsin. I do not feel that I am at liberty to tell who it was who wrote me though as you both seem to write from the same point of view, it probably would be no breach of confidence but I am sure you will appreciate my reasons for feeling that I should not give any names. I am sending you a copy of my letter for before I write more specifically in reply to your letter to me, I should be very glad to know what your reaction is as to my point of view. Perhaps I am all wrong in the way I am looking at the situation — it is so hard even with the best of intentions, to get the point of view of people who are in a thing all the time but I am more and more being impressed with the fact that there would not be so much trouble if the Synodical Society might be enabled to run along comfortably just as a Synodical Society without the cumbersomeness of handling the work which the incorporated body must handle. It seems to me that 18 women, chosen by the Synodical Society, advised by a reputable firm of lawyers or brokers, also chosen by the Society, could fully care for the legacy.

I shall be very glad to hear from you about this and will probably then write a letter relative to this whole matter.

With the very deepest regret over all the difficulties that you are having, believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

President.

MKB-H
Enclosure.

September 5, 1919.

Mrs. L. C. Sleeper,
657 Union Street,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Sleeper,

Your letter of August 26th and the accompanying pamphlets have come to hand and I have been much interested in trying to study out the proposed amendements to the Articles of Incorporation. I wish very much that I might talk with you about it because the suggestions which occur to me may be, because of the laws of Wisconsin, not feasible.

The first suggestion, and one upon which any others would hinge, would be as to whether it would be possible to entirely separate the incorporated body from the Missionary Association. I do not know the terms of the will under which the money left by Mrs. Vaughan-Marquis came to the Society; this body, as I understand it, was incorporated in order to hold this money. Would it not be possible and desirable to have a small body of trustees, say 18, divided among the Presbyteries on some basis that would be equitable, either making the basis the membership of the Societies or their gifts to Home Missions, and that Board of Trustees hold the property and manage the same with the advice of some firm of brokers or lawyers as designated by the Synodical Society, the Synodical Society of course having named the Trustees. The 18 trsutees would then vote the income from the Vaughan-Marquis estate to the regular Woman's Synodical Society, specifying the objects to which the money was to go but not specifying the ultimate detail. If such an arrangement could be made, then it would seem to me that the Synodical Society itself could be put upon the basis of every other Synodical Society and that group would not have to be separated within itself into two groups as it seems to me that it is at present, by having a group within a group.

It seems odd not to have the officers of a Synodical Society elected by the Synodical Society itself rather than by a Board of Directors whether that Board of Directors might consist of 45 or 105. If the Board of Trustees were the incorporated group holding the property, the Synodical Society could meet annually, elect the Board of Trustees, elect all its own officers, form its Executive Committee and decide upon the detailed distribution of the Vaughan-Marquis money turned over to the Synodical Society by the incorporated trustees. I do not know whether I am making my point quite clear but it seems to me that one of the difficulties now is that the Board of Directors function in the place of the Synodical Society and therefore there is apt to be a feeling always on the part of the women who should form the Synodical Society that their rights are being usurped by a small group. If it were clearly understood that the 18 trustees were for the management of the investments and that the whole management of the work to be done through the income from said investments was vested in the Synodical Society itself, it might be that everyone would be better satisfied. The Synodical Society meeting annually could, of course, only vote in a general way upon the work and the direct management of it would, I should say, be left to the Executive Committee.

The fault which I see, looking at this all from an outside point of view, with either the old or the proposed articles of incorporation and the by-laws, is that they seem to have more in thought the management of the legacy which has been

left rather than the promoting of general missionary information among the women and young people of the churches and the collecting of funds from the Societies for missionary work.

An Executive Committee of a Synodical Society is, so far as I know, always made up of the officers of the societies and I do not see how any officers can do their work unless they have this connection. I think the suggestion that some of the Secretaries be omitted from the Executive Committee carries out just the thing which I have in mind - the thought that the incorporated body is the chief issue and not the missionary. Let me stop right here to say that in your letter you speak of the fact that the Executive Committee, Article 3, Section 1 of the By-Laws, is to consist of "executive officers together with the Presidents of the Presbyterial Societies" and then go on to say that this omits the Secretary for Missionary Education, Secretary for Young People's work, etc. Do I understand by this that the officers provided for in Article 4 of the Articles of Incorporation are the only executive officers and that those provided for in Article 4 of the By-Laws are not executives? I would have supposed that all officers were considered executive officers and they certainly should be so considered as far as the missionary part of the work is concerned.

Again I come back to my original proposition that the cultivation of the missionary spirit among the women and young people seems in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws to be subsidiary to the management of a legacy. Do you suppose it would be possible to have a change made along these lines? Unless some change is made I do not see just how this matter is going to be clarified. I should certainly say that if the present method is to obtain, all officers of the Synodical Society should be on the Board of Directors and should also be members of the Executive Committee. Anything else I can hardly understand and I do not see just how women of the right type could be secured to accept these offices if they were not to be included in the general discussions and management of the work. If so much power is to be taken from all the women who meet in the general Society, then I believe that a large Board of Directors should be continued. I realize that it is cumbersome but I do not see with the present method how that can be avoided. As most Synodical Societies only meet once or twice a year, the transaction of business is usually placed in the hands of the Executive Committee but of course the Executive Committee ordinarily is a larger group than yours seems to be - including all of the officers with the presidents of the Presbyterial Societies and in addition sometimes two to ten others elected by the Synodical Societies at the Annual Meeting. My suggested plan of two distinct groups would not necessitate a large Executive Committee as one group would in a way check the other.

In one of your letters you say that Mrs. Williams at a Presbyterial meeting said: "The Board of Directors only held property - it is neither necessary nor expedient that Secretaries be members of the Board as their work is purely to enlarge, strengthen and unify the work of the Societies". You see again I come back to my position that these two functions need to be very carefully differentiated.

I should have the Board of Trustees make its quarterly report to the Executive Committee and its annual report in writing to the Synodical Society as a whole.

The question of paying the expenses of Directors and of members is

always a very difficult one. We all feel that a Contingent Fund which interferes with Missionary contributions is a great mistake. On the other hand it is only fair that so far as possible the expenses of the members of the Executive Committee should be paid when possible. If the Executive Committee has fixed times for its quarterly meetings and these are held in a city, it is often true that women can make this season when they will do their shopping and will gather there frequently at their own expense and if those who live in the city will entertain out of town people, it is possible usually to have a fairly good sized Executive Committee meeting. Sometimes expenses are paid to the mid year meeting, leaving it to the women to come to the others as they are able.

I am afraid I cannot say that the Hand Book can be considered as authority for insisting that all Secretaries be members of the Executive Committee but certainly custom and I should feel that the needs of the work would demand that this be so.

I should be very glad to hear from you as to what you think of the suggestions I am making and their feasibility. I shall be glad to write you further whether you think my suggestions are possible or impossible. In any case I feel very strongly that the present Articles of Incorporation and the proposed amendements should all be submitted in print at the meeting at which they are to be voted. If it is not possible to have them there as they have been set up in the Wisconsin Presbyterian and your Hand Book, then I should say they should be printed cheaply. It is never in my mind fair to ask women to act upon an important matter of this kind without having the material in hand, neither is it fair that these should be hurried through. They should have most careful consideration and every point of view should be thoroughly gone over. I feel that this is a most important matter and should be very glad if it would be possible for us to have anyone who could be a real help with you at the Synodical meeting. It is very questionable whether I can be there myself because of engagements already made but if you feel that someone thoroughly informed should be present, I assure you that we shall be glad to make an effort to have her there.

With every hope that all your difficult problems may be worked out in the best possible way and with every desire to be of as much help to you as much as possible, believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

President.

MKB-H

V

667 Union Street,
Appleton, Wis.
Sept. 16, 1919.

Mrs. F. S. Bennett,
Women's Board of Home Missions,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mrs. Bennett:-

Your welcome letter of September 5th was received several days ago, but the arrival of guests at the same time, has permitted an earlier reply.

Thank you for the helpful suggestions. I wish it were possible to have such a solution for our problem. There are some points I do not feel competent to discuss fully. There is no one here with whom I can consult. I am hoping to be in Milwaukee, before the end of the month and will advise with those who have had long experience and more intimate knowledge of these problems. There has been so much for me, returned from three weeks with the whys and wherefores of things, to grasp and learn this year, with a new president and six new secretaries.

I do, indeed, wish we might be able to talk the whole matter over. There is much I cannot write in detail.

I see you cannot yet believe some facts are possible. Many here in Wisconsin have felt so, but this year has developed many unusual, unbelievable things. Those who are still trying to "carry on", feel as if they are making a last stand.

First, as to your suggestion about a body of trustees,

upon which so much of your letter depended.

I shall have to give you my personal understanding in regard to this and if, after advising with others, I find I am in error, will write again to that effect.

From my knowledge of the Vaughn-Maguire will and income, the matter was discussed quite fully at the time of the change to 105 directors, such a plan is not possible. Whether it would be, when the Society comes into possession of the inheritance, I do not know.

The Society had to incorporate to hold property. The property is still in trust and will be until the last heir dies. The Society receives only its share of the income.

Our most able Mrs Maynard and her Committee labored over this problem of direction, when the change was made, that the Society might have the most representative, feasible, working body possible, as their duty was to be two-fold - missionary and corporate. Therefore, 105 seemed the practicable number to be chosen from the entire Society, for conducting as you said, "the whole management of the work to be done through the income". It was the nearest approach to the Synodical Society itself and still a Board of Directors.

The average of this income, until the years of the war swelled it, was a little more than $2000, enough only for salary and expenses. As the sum grew, a little could be put aside to help out in the lean years, which experience had taught, could again return.

Undoubtedly as 105 directors appeared, it seemed the most democratic representation and interest in mission work was the main aim. There has never been a question, so far as I

hum, until last October at the Annual Meeting.

The Executive Committee, heretofore has always included all officers, all secretaries and chairmen of standing committees, "available on two days notice". These outside, this were always welcome, but that clause was necessary, because several times our field workers could be present and special meetings were called on short notice when we might have the advantage of his counsel and knowledge. All secretaries & chairmen were deemed necessary for the best possible planning of the work. When a capable or specially qualified secretary was found, she was made a director as soon as possible and as you say, under the proposed amendments "women of the right type cannot be secured to accept these offices under other conditions".

This year has demonstrated that, in the resignation of four of our most capable officers (former presidents & secretaries) and six secretaries. No Secretary for Missionary Education until June!

You were amazed or perhaps thought I was confused when I spoke of the Executive Committee Art 3 Sec 1. Bylaws. including only the officers in Art IV Sec 2 and omitting those in Art IV Sec. 1. Bylaws. Such is my understanding, which Mrs Williams, chairman of the Committee on Constitution & Bylaws, confirmed by the statement concerning secretaries, already given to you.

I felt then, we ought to have some definite expression as to the Boards feeling in the question. That was my reason for presuming to write.

The management as proposed, would involve three or a very small number — the wider missionary knowledge would be lost. Experience proves that if the last sentence

of Art IV sec 1. goes into effect, no business can be done except at Annual meetings unless, perhaps, directors are paid. (Not to be thought of)

Until the last Annual Meeting, the incorporated body and the missionary body functioned in one, with never a question and in perfect accord.

Another staggering item, bringing on the decision of the composition of the Executive Committee is the fact the Contingent Fund is to defray expenses for attendance at Annual & Special meetings. Note Miss Mills' "Objections" page 8 of the "Presbyterian" about the 7th question. For the first time, there was no quorum at the September quarterly meeting. Had the Recording Secretary been able to attend and thus condition maintained, there would have been needless expense.

It is the ideal, but I do not see how it can be done. Special meetings (Bylaws Art 1 sec 2 might be very frequent. Wisconsin Synodical Society has always met the expenses of officers when necessity demanded — but there is a limit to Contingent Funds, even when generous, consecrated women have helped to price them out to the necessary diminutive. This is the type we are living.

Since the income increased so materially, a small amount has been used for Contingent Funds, but if the income returns to the old average, it could not be done, except at the expense of the missionary.

From early days, quarterly meetings were necessary to stimulate interest and keep alive enthusiasm. A spring meeting, at least, is now essential, as the income from the legacy is usually known, in a general way by March and is paid in April or May. That money should not be idle until October (annual meeting). Whether should its disposition rest with an Executive Committee of the

proposed Constitution.

Several times when in Milwaukee this year, women of the local societies have said, "We don't know anything about the work any more."

As Mrs Yale wrote not long ago, "Mrs Vidder & Mrs Manville used to entertain the society in their own homes and have 200 women present." In those days women came from the far north of the state, at their own expense too.

We have indeed, degenerated this year into an incorporated body and if the proposed amendments pass, that is what the future of this society will be.

You have had reports of the Annual Meeting at Wausau last year from your delegate and secretary.

Like a destructive thunderbolt from a clear sky, the first inkling of this premeditated attempt to overthrow the work of years, burst upon the society. You naturally ask, "Why".

May I call your attention to pages 16-17 of the "Yearbook". Note carefully the trend of the last paragraphs. Our women have now formed an educational work they have long sought and all over the state. they are intensely interested. Nothing must interfere.

Also note the 3rd paragraph, Proposed Amendments Art III Sec 4 and compare with old in "Yearbook". That is a re-instatement. And therein lies all the trouble, I think.

The unusual increase in the Vaughn Margin funds and changes in the personnel of Legislative Home Missions Committee, seem to me, to be the main reasons for the difficulty.

6. The "Rules" of Synod's Home Mission or Permanent Committee read :- "The entire management of the Home Mission work in our state shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of its chairman who shall be from Synod at large, 3 members from each Presbytery, the chairman of each Presbyterial Committee and 2 others elected by Presbytery and 6 members from the Woman's Synodical Society, the President and one representative from each Presbyterial Society". Originally there were only 3.

This Committee meets quarterly. Expenses of the Executive Committee (on which the President of the W. S. H. S. is the only representative) which may meet quarterly, are paid from the Home Mission Treasury".

The Woman's Society was invited into membership in 1909. There seemed to be no definite work for the women in exact accord with the Marquis of the expressed wishes; the funds were small. The men planned. It was mission work and must be done. Then as the work grew and new fields opened, the long desired work was found. A work among the women and children of the Range. Time after time in these years, the Home Mission Committee appealed to the women to help them out financially, in addition to the work the women were supporting.

Since the first year Synod has not put one cent into the Gogebic work until this spring. Why? We do not yet know.

The records were sent to Milwaukee for the September quarterly meeting so I may not be accurate. I think it was in Dec. 1917. it was decided that as the methods of the work had changed and became intensive and because of necessary conservation in effort and economy to withdraw.

7 (to withdraw.) Notice was sent in due form to the Chairman — a privilege as an incorporated body in legally possessed according to Bylaws VII (Yearbook).

This action was also reported in the Wisconsin Presbyterian following the meeting.

No recognition of it was made, until notice of the Synods H.M. spring meeting was received. Again the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to send notice of the action taken. Although there was a September quarterly meeting, nothing more was heard until Mr. Hunt made his speech on the floor at Nassau. As I happen to have a copy, I quote a portion:-

"We desire to express our deep regret over the action of the Executive Committee (Home Board of Directors) voting to sever official relations between the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and Synodical Society. For many years cordial cooperation between us has resulted in great advance of the Lords work in the northern part of our beloved State, and the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and the whole Synod have always deeply appreciated not only the splendid financial help of the women, but have delighted in the fine spirit and practical wisdom of their representatives who counsel and vote with us on Permanent Committee XXXXXX

Furthermore, we would courteously remind the Synodical Society that all religious activities by Presbyterians in this state are conducted under the authority of the Wisconsin Synod, and this includes our own Committee of Home Missions, all our churches, and all the auxiliary and allied organizations of the men, women and youth, both

8 " in the local churches, Presbyteries and the Synod. The Wisconsin Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. is the highest court in this state under whose authority we all work. Now the Synod created the Permanent Committee of Home Missions and that Committee incorporated under the laws of the state as a creature of the Synod, and both its composition and largely its rules and methods of work are directed and officially controlled by vote of Synod. The Permanent Committee cant change its membership and the Executive Committee of the Wardens Synodical Society cannot change composition of Permanent Committee nor the rules of Synod. Now it is one of the rules of Synod that six women are officially appointed on that Committee, one from each Presbyterial Society and the President of the Synodical Society. Synod made that rule and Synod alone can change it. This was the gist of our reply last spring and it is the point of our appeal to you now. Your representatives on our Committee are still members of Synod's Committee and our appeal to you to so instruct your representatives and request them to attend the regular meetings of our committee until Synod shall release them or change the rules" xxxxx

It was his unjust, insinuating criticism of methods and officers, his Pharisaistic authority over us and the applause of the women who did not realize what was back of it all, that crushed (literally) so many of our beloved women workers. As Mrs Utt, one of our splendid missionary women in Nevada told me confidentially after she

returned, "Ten years hence the leave of that hour will still be felt."

Does it mean, Mrs Bennett, that because conditions of those early years of the legend made necessary the action of 1909, that the Synodical Society must be forever hampered and tied?

The Student Pastor at the University, with the sanction of the Home Mission Committee, is now appealing to the Society to support a woman worker at Madison. There will be no end to these requests, unless the policy of the enclosed circular can be established here in Wisconsin. But H-O-W?

The situation seems to demand the best possible counsel. The future of the Society and the work is at stake.

Enough copies of the "Yearbook" were printed this year, so they need be used at the Annual meeting.

The wrought of the printed constitutions accused at the Winnebago Presbyterial meeting. Probably enough "Wisconsin Presbyterians" will be furnished. No report of the Committee on Incorporation & Bylaws has been made or instructions requested, so I cannot say. All power was accused.

Thoughts of the Annual Meeting in Neenah, October 14, 15, 16 fill me with dread, instead of joy and anticipation. The beautiful commodious church will permit the entertainment of both Synod and the Synodical Society under the same roof. The dispatch-

factions arose in this Community of Winnebago.

I have tried to state facts and avoid all personalities that you may know just what the situation is. It seems almost hopeless. There is one little ray of light. This has been the Master's work and surely the consecrated, loyal efforts and the love and joy of saving others that has been carried through these forty-eight (48) years, cannot be thus set at nought. Perhaps we will come through the fire with a better understanding and larger purpose — but the way seems very dark and uncertain now. We can only pray earnestly for guidance.

If there is a way out you will know and direct us as you think best.

Thanking you, dear,

Most sincerely yours,

(Mrs. C.) Florence Wisent Slaper.

Milwaukee, Sept. 26, 1919

My dear Mrs. Bennett:

We were away at the time your letter was delivered, and as no mail was forwarded I did not receive it until our return.

We go to Sturgeon Bay "Tabbs Point" after Sept 1st as then the crowds have gone and only a few true nature lovers remain. The point is covered with pines and cedars and the aroma, especially after a rain, is most pronounced. We have a tiny one room cottage, just on the edge of the wood -

situation as exists in Wisconsin today" and she replied "I could not." She is familiar with every fact and turn and agreed with our ideas as to the cause of this upheaval in every particular.

Throughout these years we have always understood that according to the Statutes of Wisconsin, incorporation was compulsory to secure the legacy.

There would be no difficulties among the women if the interested men would only let them alone - but this past year more ministers wives have been elected Presbyterial officers etc. which further complicates our problems.

Then, at Beloit, Mrs. Maynard read the proposed amendment withdrawing from membership in Synods' H. M. Com., Mrs. C. E. Board of Waukesha rose and objected. Her husband is the pastor at Waukesa & a member of this Com.

& a beautiful view of Green Bay below us and within a few steps we can see Govt. Bluff & Sturgeon Bay. It is one of the dearest bits of scenery in Wisconsin and I wish enclose a postal which gives a perfect idea of our surroundings. Here one lives the simple life - in touch with Nature.

Since our return it has been necessary to readjust one's self and assume the daily cares.

While we were east, dear Mrs. Bennett, I was so sorry not to have had a plain talk - for we do hesitate to speak as freely thro' correspondence - for fear of being misunderstood. However, we will do the best we can and try to give as perfect an exposition as possible.

In this packet is a copy of a Year Book containing the copy of the constitution in effect until Nov. 1914; also a copy of the Vaughn-Marquis will and two other papers which might be of interest. The red hand marks the part where in our Boards etc. are mentioned; it is rather lengthy but it seemed best to send it in its entirety. May serve for reference again, if needed.

The wish of our hearts would be for this legacy to be turned over to our Woman's Board of Home Missions to be expended in work for Wisconsin. It could never be accomplished - we could not secure the vote, so that is ruled out entirely.

We have a group of 18 trustees at present - but their duties have not been arduous - in fact, they exist in name only.

The greatest difficulty we have to face is the obstinacy and lack of real knowledge of these problems possessed by this element - they are possessed of but one idea. Mrs. Wilson, formerly Cor. Sec'y was in Milwaukee this summer and asked her "Could she have ever conceived of such a

and members of standing committees were Directors. Now we have 3 women on com. who are not directors. All officers - to the least - were on the ex. com. How can the work progress intelligently unless our secretaries are recognized, assisted, instructed and in touch with the details of our Brands' plans. To quote, "Anything else I do not understand + I do not see just how women of the right type could be secured to accept these offices if they were not to be included in the genl. discussion and management of the work." That is the point exactly - no woman wants to be recorded a failure - unless she knows she can (at the beginning) ask for assistance in her department & work & receive it, she must accept. Every conscientious worker wants to know she is doing her work in the accepted way and where will she turn for intelligent advice and support? Everyone can not devote the time to her work necessary to work it out for herself. After the way dear Mrs. Fitzgerald was literally crucified, there will be no women of her type in this work while this present element controls.

v.

When I learned that at Wausau last October the women from Waukesha were well versed in the discussion to come before the afternoon session + were conversing about it at the noon recess previous to the afternoon session, I wondered how + where they had rec'd. instruction. When I recalled this previous incident, I felt I had reached the solution. The Wms. had not been working as other members of S.H.M. Com. have wives - officers of this organization - so we have a difficult situation to meet.

I realize how peculiar our organization would seem to another - it was difficult at first to accustom ourselves to it - and we had to exercise care in using the new terms correctly. If we could simply it, it would seem advisable - but.

You are correct in your surmise - this year, but not before, has the "management of this legacy" usurped the minds and souls of our women.

For years, it was regarded only as the means to an end – the furthering of missionary work in the wild spots of Wis. among the ignorant & needy. It was used wisely and with consecration; every dollar conserved to promote the interest in missions. There is but the one reason which has produced this change. Less than nothing has been done this year – how come it to be otherwise? We have returned to the experimental stage, and it will be years – if ever – we come back to our former happy status. Last October when Mrs. Pierce told them to take the work and go on – they all said in one breath "why we can't, we don't know how". They spoke truly – the result is apparent Today. Last week I was asked to talk to one of the auxiliaries in one of our smaller churches on our Home work and its organization etc. I would have gladly done anything to help these women, but I could not. My mother would have been questioned and further unpleasantness might result. The present desire has been to obliterate the old regime as effectually as possible. You see the spirit has changed; as my husband remarked lately when I explained a phone call one evening, "The spirit isn't there".

Our Executive committee heretofore consisted of 34 women. We had some chance for interchange of ideas. Assuredly, with the constitution proposed the corporate body is to be considered first. All officers are not considered executive – Mrs. D. J. Williams could see no necessity for the departmental secretaries having a part in the ex. meetings – also no need for their being directors. From their grasp of the work, can you wonder at their ideas – no experience, no knowledge, only one thought predominating always. Heretofore all officers of the Synodical Society were Directors by virtue of being Elected Officers –

report last June that a lady remarked after listening to Mrs. Wms. reading of this complicated document that "It would require the brains of a Philadelphia lawyer to grasp any understanding of it at one hearing." Thank You, for your straightness.

The question of instructed delegates is one of grave concern.

The report will be read, the role of instructed delegates called for and counted and the matter is ended.

Can we not question whether a majority of the society was present and voted? Not 2 or 3, or perhaps the President, without even a reading of this document before the Society?

Last week Tues. morning, a lady called me on the phone for some information and proceeded later to tell me that she had been elected delegate from their society to Neenah.

As we travelled east last June, Mrs. O.R. Wm Sen. of Chicago and party were on the train going to Warren Ind. We talked the situation over and she said, "Won't Mrs. Fitzgerald come back. Can't you effect a change?" I told her "impossible under the present conditions". The effect of that afternoon will be very far reaching, we fear.

We will try to retain the 105 directors.

For an executive committee to have only 5 for a quorum - majority 3 - caused much uneasiness.

We mean to try to have the minority report accepted and return to the old articles.

We are very likely to fail, but will try.

The question of expenses is another stumbling block. Our contingent fund is made up of individual Gifts, 10¢ tax pro rata on societies, collections at annual & quar. meetings, & $100. is taken from the V.M. income to administer the fund. The income from a bond is also an assistance.

Our rec. Secy. Mrs. Sleeper was elected delegate to the Biennial at Denver. She declined on a/c

of the excessive expense to the Society. We have had two conferences the past two years when we all heard the able leaders from the Board & Chicago bring so near us have speakers &c. Mrs. Bishoff appointed Mrs. Bovard. Mrs. Weisert said to Mrs. Bishoff when told of the appointment "Did you tell Mrs. B. the Society only pays railroad fare." Mrs. W. had not at the executive meeting preceding the June Conf., Mrs. Bishoff rose and said "She wished we would arrange to pay the railroad fare, Pullman, meals & tips for our delegates." The discussion that followed was a most earnest one - the result being that only the Pullman fare was allowed - and the re-imbursement ~~allowed~~ made.

Then a com. Mrs. J. F. Peirce, Chm. was named to find means for increasing this fund: 3 members suggested as follows:

Mrs. Weisert, that small bonds be gotten whose interest would accrue to this fund;

Mrs. Bovard - that all expenses be taken from the income of the Vaughn Marquis legacy;

Mrs. Jackson - that the interest of the Sinking fund be used. This report will be presented at Neenah.

Synods' H. M. Com. meet Spring and Fall. In the spring the railroad & hotel expenses of from 21 to 25 men are taken from the fund raised for Home Missions in Wisconsin. Our consecrated women have not used our society's money in that way up to the present time. The future holds many surprises.

We appreciate the suggestion that all must have a printed copy of the proposed articles &c., also a printed copy of the minority report.

The Syn. delegate from the Winnebago Presb. Soc's meeting said while giving her

That when they attempted to instruct her how to vote She inquired how many present had read this report and 3 women had. She declined to receive any instructions, saying She would accept only where she could vote as She deemed right. Would that there were only a few more of such women.
That was Mrs. W.H. Edwards - whose husband & herself have both studied into this matter. For years She has been the finest Presb. Cor. Secy. Wisconsin has had but declined to work longer under existing conditions.
Mr. Jackson is the Pastor; his wife, the Cor. Secy. Mrs. Edwards told me Mrs. Mishoff; was much displeased over her action.
How many more will be "instructed" along the same lines?
My dear Mrs. Bennett, we have hoped

and prayed that you might see your way to come to Wisconsin, Oct. 15-4+16-4. This is to come up under new business Thursday - but it is not safe to depend upon that. The matter might be "put over" Wednesday - so we must be on hand. We must deeply deplore this controversy, and regret any one's coming to Wisconsin under such unhappy conditions.

It is the work we must consider and surely God will not allow it to be destroyed. Help will come.

Should it prove an impossibility for you to be with us, do please send to Wisconsin the most able woman for you

Yours in the Holy Christian Church of the U.S.C., to aid us.

Rev. Langston - Bayless Memorial Bldg. at Parsons was dedicated to be formally dedicated and Rededicated during the Easter Week and a Holy Communion Rally. Tent Revival the Week of this locality and Bro. Fitzgerald and Sister Fall 9 Tent Meeting will accompany which Bro. Bennett to be accompanied at each a ceremony but she has suffered severe. Will be here the Week Revival at the Tent U.P.C. we learned that Rev. Harris had decided to have no dedicatory service. Truly, it is the Lord's own for His own.

With deepest appreciation, I am

Yours Sympathetic and Helpfulness with hymns ordeal,

Faithfully yours
Blanche R. Yale
(Mrs. H.B.)

October 8, 1919.

Mrs. L. E. Sleeper,
657 Union Street,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Sleeper:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to one of the women of Wisconsin who feels as do you. Because the hands of the clock are moving on rapidly toward the moment when I must leave for Cleveland I am just enclosing this to you instead of dictating another long letter. Let me emphasize that my keenest interest is with you and my earnest desire to be of help but this does seem to be a case where the Board is authorized with certain limits and it seems that just now you are at a point where you must be more than careful about seeming to dictate. I hope and pray that you will come through the Synod meeting with the right decisions. The Woman's Board will indeed give larger consideration to the matters in Wisconsin than they have before.

With every prayer for the right ending believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

Dictated but not read.

October 8, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin/

My dear Mrs. Yale:

I wish I could say that I am coming to Wisconsin for the meeting of your Synodical Society but I am very fearful that it is not going to be possible. You see our engagements are made six months ahead and I am crowded full and can only come by changing other engagements which as yet I have not been able to do. I have been going over the situation in Wisconsin with a very great deal of care and I really am afraid I do not see how we can help very greatly. The Woman's Board suggests but cannot dictate. We would, I think, never approve an Executive Committee from which officers of the Synodical Society were omitted and we feel that all of the power of the Executive Committee of the Synodical Society should be thrown toward increasing the missionary interest in the Society at large. I had quite forgotten the agreement reached in 1903 between the Board of Home Missions and the Synodical Society which makes the Woman's Board a co-worker with the Synodical Society in the management of the legacy. This having come to my attention, I feel that we are legally and morally responsible, much more so than I had realized. While I do not see how we can hurriedly enter into this, I shall certainly do my best to establish a much closer affiliation than before. That, however, will not influence the adoption of a constitution by the Synodical Society. I note further that when the legacy has been paid that the Woman's Board receives it using the income in Wisconsin. Have you any idea when the legacy is apt to be closed? Are there young heirs and how many of them are there? This would influence me. According to this agreement the Woman's Board has the right to this work in the class of work undertaken and I shall want to go into this whole matter very thoroughly.

I hope and pray that the women will come to the Synodical meeting after prayful consideration of all the matters involved. Let me say again, the Woman's Board can only advise and recommend and not insist and I am sure that Miss Streeter, who will represent us at Neenah will advise such an Executive Committee as we approve. She can only advise, however. I feel that my letters seem so inadequate to this situation. I wish I could tell you how much I want to help but how hampered I am by the fact that the Woman's Board has no right to say that things shall be "thus and so" and that it has to exert the greatest care not to antagonize any group of women in charge. I believe, however, that we can later help the situation greatly by insisting upon a closer oversight than has been allowed by them in the agreement. In addition, I am sure you recognize that the Woman's Board has to be most careful that it recognizes that Synod has rights within the bounds of its own territories. We may regret greatly, sometimes, the way in which this is enforced but on the whole the Synods do not interfere. We have, therefore, to be more than careful that we do not seem to set aside their authority.

I feel, let me say again, as if I were holding myself aloof from your difficulties. My desire is to give you all the help possible but there are certainly restrictions which I must observe. Any deviation by me officially would only in the long run do harm.

I am writing just before leaving for Clevelamd for the Ohio Synodiacl and cannot write any further. I do hope and pray that the Lord's wisdom may guide the women at the meeting and that from all this darkness there may come light.

With all sympathy and a desire to really be of help, I am

Faithfully yours,

Dictated but not read.

Woman's Board of Home Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

October 3, 1919.

Miss Streeter,
% I. W. Mishess,
516 Nelson Place,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Miss Streeter:

You are going to the Synodical Society of Wisconsin at Neenah, I believe. It is barely possible that I may join you there. Please say absolutely nothing about it, however, as I do not wish it known that I am coming if I do so. I do not know whether you know anything about the situation in Wisconsin. It is a very difficult one to understand. It is barely possible that before the meeting there I may be able to get to you some copies of correspondence but lest I do not I just want to tell you a word.

The enclosed statement relative to the legacy left to Wisconsin will show you the situation as it exists now. The president for years in Wisconsin was a very wealthy and prominent woman of Milwaukee, named Mrs. Vedded. During Mrs. Vedder's life she was the controlling influence. After her death I think that Mrs. Maynard became president. She with Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Yale were perhaps the most prominent women. They all live in Milwaukee, were devoted to the work and all, I think, held some office. During the last two or three years much opposition has grown up to this group. Please be clear now that I am only giving you my understanding and this must not be quoted. Since the war there has been a very great increase in the amount of the Marquis legacy income. The men of Synod have cast longing eyes toward this income. Many of their wives have been placed on the Synodical Official staff and last October at the Synodical meeting there was a definite outbreak in which some of the women who have given the longest and most faithful service were personally attached from the floor. The immediate occasion, as I understand it, was that these women had asked to be relieved from membership on the Home Mission Committee of Synod as they felt that they were useless there and it was a large expense to go to the meetings held in the various parts of the state. In any case it was a very unpleasant meeting; practically all of the women who have served for a long time withdrew and a new group of women took the offices. A committee was appointed bringing in a new constitution and by-laws and I am enclosing herein a copy of this. You, of course, have not the original but I am sure you can easily get that there. Note the objections of Miss Wells on page 3 and note what I have said in my dictated article relative to this. Now the points that I want to make to you are:

(1) That so near as I understand it the women who lead and believe in the old regime and who may or may not be present are:

Mrs. Maynard — Mrs. Yale
Mrs. Fitzgerald — Mrs. Sleeper.

Of course there are many others but I do not know them or do not know where they stand. The women in opposition are Mrs. Williams, chairman of the committee on constitution and absolutely leader of

Woman's Board of Home Missions
of the
Presbyterian Church in the United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

the opposition and Mrs. Bouvard. Many, of course, of the women are not thinking but are just following the leaders.

(2) My next point and I make it emphatic knowing you will understand it is to warn you not to get entangled in this matter. If your opinion is asked try to have it given in public. Have as few private conferences as possible. Say always that the Woman's Board does not dictate, it only advises. Say that we always think that the Executive Committee should have on it all the officers and that it would be our point of view that the legacy and its management must be secondary to the stimulation of missionary interest in the societies. I am giving you all the background because I think you cannot keep clear of entanglements without it.

I would have gotten this material to you sooner but it has been absolutely impossible and much of it has just come into my hands. Note the agreement between the Board of Home Missions and the Synodical Society. I think that they have forgotten this. It will be well to call their attention to it if it can be done in a rather casual way. This was made before I was President and has been lost in New York until now but now that it has been brought up we will take a new interest in the whole situation but I want to do this very carefully and I do want to forewarn you that you may not be drawn into what may be a very difficult situation for you.

May you be given much guidance in these troubled days and believe me that I am with much affection,

Faithfully yours,

(Mrs. F.S.) W. Katharine Bennett.

Dictated but not read.

STATEMENT.

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin.

The will of Mrs. Vaughn-Marquis which was probated March 5, 1901 said: "Any surplus remaining from the income of my estate shall be divided and paid by my executors and trustees annually as follows: To be divided equally between the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions of the Northwest, Room 48 Chicago, Ill.; the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions of the state of Wisconsin; the Presbyterian Board of Aid for Freedmen; and the Presbyterian Board of Aid for Colleges; that upon the death of either Nancy Patterson Vaughn, Ella Searles or Dr. David H. Marquis during the life of either of the others, then the amount herein provided to be paid, shall after his or her death be paid in equal parts to the said four Boards." "It is my will, and I hereby direct that in payment of the cash legacies to be paid to James Vaughn, Minnie, wife of Henry Pugsley, and Ed. Vaughn, and in the converting of my estate into money at any time that my executors and trustees shall take such reasonable time as they may need to convert the necessary assets into cash for the purpose of paying them with at any sacrifice of any of my property."

Because of this will the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of Wisconsin incorporated in 1901 under the article of incorporation, eighteen trustees were named but according to article seven "All members of auxiliaries in attendance at the annual meeting shall have the privilege of voting on the election of officers and on all constitutional questions." In 1908 these articles of incorporation were amended chiefly for the purpose of adding new secretaries such as Westminister Guild etc. For the purpose of locating the executive which by the articles of 1901 had added on to all officers and trustees of the Society the officers and members of Milwaukee Societies. The amendment of 1908 omitted "members" of the Milwaukee Societies.

About 1915 - evidently 1914 another change was made in the articles of incorporation and a Board of Directors of 105 was created. This Board of Directors elected its own officers. There was also named a Board of Trustees of 18 but the duties of this large body were not defined. One prominent woman in Wisconsin says that "They existed in name only." This new constitution and by-laws had the Board of Directors elected at the annual meeting of the Synodical Society but as said above left it to the Directors to elect their own officers at a meeting to follow the annual meeting. All officers were on the Board of Directors. Now in October 1919 a new constitution and by-laws have been proposed. According to this the Board of Directors will be elected to 45 these to be pro-rated among the Presbyterials. Officers continue to be elected by the Board from its own number but this is to be done at the annual meeting of the Synodical Society; that is, a time is to be set aside in the annual meeting for this election. According to this new constitution no trustees are to be named. Further only the President, Vice-president, Recording and Corresponding and General Secretaries and Treasurers are to be executive officers and on the Executive Committee. All other officers such as the secretary for Freedman, for young people, literature etc, are not executive and are to be elected by the Synodical Society at large upon the decision of the Board of Directors as to the number needed; names being presented by the nominating committee. That is to say, the nominating committee will present at the annual meeting of the Synodical Society the names of those willing to serve as directors and as secretaries of special departments of work but executive officers will be elected by the Board of Directors itself. We again emphasize the fact that the Executive Committee will be made up of the executive officers together with the presidents of the

Presbyterial Societies. Five members to constitute a quorum. This leaves all departmental secretaries off of the Executive Committee and would seem to make of the Executive Committee a body to handle the legacies and funds rather than a body to promote missionary interest among the societies. This plan of not having all officers on the Executive Committee is one that has never been followed in any of these societies and we cannot believe that it will be for the best interest of the organization. We do not see how the departmental secretaries can feel that they have a part in the whole work unless they are closely associated with them by being members of the Executive Committee on the Board of Directors and recognized as co-equal officers with the others. We fear that women of the type needed cannot be found under these circumstances. Another item in the proposed constitution and by-laws is the question of a Contingent Fund. The by-laws say that " The expenses of members of the Executive Committee attending meetings and the expenses of such officers and speakers and delegates as the Executive Committee may designate may be paid from the Contingent Fund of the Society. This would seem to make a heavy drain on the Contingent Fund especially in view of the fact that special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the president on request of three members.

.....

The Woman's Board of Home Missions suggests and constitutes a by-laws for organizations and auxiliaries but these are not in most cases incorporated bodies. Therefore, its suggested outlines, we realize, would not be valuable to a body that must be incorporated in order to receive a legacy. The Woman's Board of Home Missions suggests but does not dictate. In the case of Wisconsin, however, bears a rather unusual relationship and has peculiar interest in the whole matter. In noting the quotation from the will of Mrs. Marquis it will be seen that one of the beneficiaries under the will was "The Presbyterian Board of Home Missions of the state of Wisconsin." No such body technically existed. It was well known that Mrs. Marquis intended this money to go through the Women and after much correspondence the following agreement was reached between the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. and the Woman's Syndical Society of Wisconsin.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

"Whereas, by the Will of the Late Madeline Vaughn-Marquis, a legacy was left to the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions in Wisconsin and

Whereas, between the Boards of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. and the Woman's Syndical Society of the Presbyterian under the joint direction of the Woman's Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Syndical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin and in either case for work in that State and whether that although the legacy shall actually be received by and passed thru the Treasury of the Woman's Syndical Missionary Society of Wisconsin the annual amount shall by the Treasurer of that Society be transmitted to the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Home Missions for use as hereinbefore espressed. Now therefore, to carry out the said arrangement it is agreed by and between the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A. and the Woman's Syndical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Wisconsin that the said Presbyterian Board shall in turn waive any and all claims to the said legacy, consent to the payment of the same to the Woman's Syndical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin, and sign a paper to that effect and that thereupon the said legacy when received by the Woman's Syndical Missionary Society of the Presby-

terian Church of Wisconsin shall by its treasurer be transmitted to the treasurer of the Woman's Board of Home Missions and that the amount thus received shall be administered under the joint direction of the Woman's Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin for work in the state of Wisconsin as hereinbefore set forth.

In witness whereof the said Board of Home Missions and said Woman's Synodical Missionary Society have caused this instrument to be duly signed and sealed with their corporate seals and attested by their secretaries this date of February A.D. 1903.

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF U.S.A.
E. L. Thompson, Secretary.

WITNESSES-- H. C. Olin
" A. G. Weissert

Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin (Hannah M. Vedder, President. (Mary Lee, Vice-president. (Mary E. Weissert, Treasurer.

It will be seen that according to this agreement the legacy is to be administered under the joint direction of the Woman's Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society. It will be further noted that when the legacy is received it is to be transmitted to the treasurer of the Woman's Board of Home Missions to be held in trust for administration under the direction of this Board and the Synodical Society of Wisconsin. The Woman's Board of Home Missions has left the administration of the funds to the Synodical Society but in view of the changing nature of the work undertaken and the various changes in the forms of the article of incorporation it believes that its legal responsibility would demand that it should have a closer touch with this whole matter than it has had before and it would be very glad to take the matter up with a view to some closer cooperation than there has been in the past.

The estate of Mrs. Marquis has not been closed and we understand cannot be until the death of the last heir. We have no means of knowing what the probabilities are in this direction whether the heirs are young or elderly.

The income from the legacy has varied [illegible]
given in the following letter: Letter from Trustees to Mrs. Weissert, Treasurer.

Burch and Lamoreaux. Dec. 7, 1914.

Note your inquiry as to why the income fluctuates from year to year. The principal item that effects the income of the estate in this respect is the income derived from the dividends of the Northern Chief Iron Co. The income of the Northern Chief Iron Co. consists in the main, of royalties from operating companies who lease the lands from the Northern Chief and operate the mines, the output of which is dependent, largely, on the market. Some years when there is an especially good demand for ore the output of course is larger, and the larger the output the more our royalty. The past year has been a very poor year in the ore business that is to say the year 1914, and our income this year will be cut consider-

ably, thereby making a considerable decrease in the amount that we will have to divide in our next report. Our income from interest receipts, from mortgages etc. is gradually increasing as we from time to time dispose of unproductive real estate, the proceeds from which we derive more interest income, at the same time lessening our outgo for taxes. Assuring you of our willingness to give you information at any time,

BURCH & LINDEMANN."

One year we believe the income was as low as $25. Another year it was as much $6000.

The Women's Board of Home Missions desires always to work in the Synod in close cooperation with the Synod and recognizes that that body is to be consulted relative to the work within the bounds of its territories.

We believe the above statement sets forth clearly the situation as it exists in Wisconsin, today.

October 13, 1919.

Miss Helen W. Streeter,
% Dr. Daniel C. JOnes,
Pastor First Presbyterian Church,
Neenah, Wisconsin.

My dear Miss Streeter:

I have just wired you to Milwaukee, % Mrs. Mishoff as follows: "Am sending important letter care of First Church, Neenah. Mailed you letter October ninth to Milwaukee. Name of street wrong. If not received inquire Post Office." For fear that the letter with enclosure that I sent you to Milwaukee may not be found I am sending a copy thereof showing error in address and another copy of the enclosure which is a statement regarding the situation as I understand it. I find it impossible for me to go to Wisconsin much as I should like to do so. Frankly, there is quite a weight of responsibility upon you as a representative of the Woman's Board of Home Missions at that meeting but I want to assure you that we thoroughly understand that you have not an historical background for all of the relationships and I can but reiterate my advice in the enclosed letter of October 9th that when in doubt you say and do nothing. I have been having the minutes of the Board of Home Missions and of the Woman's Board of Home Missions of 1901 gone over but I find very little which is of help. They indicate that there was much discussion at the time that the Wisconsin Synodical Society was incorporated as to the relationship which the incorporated body would bear to the Woman's Board. Under date of March 12, 1901 I find that Mrs. Pierson, then the general secretary of the Woman's Board, who had just returned from an important Synodical Quarterly meeting at Milwaukee, reported that "in case there should be an issue between the Society and the parent board, it was understood that as an auxiliary society they would abide by the decision of the Board." Under date of September 28, 1901, a letter from Mrs. Vedder, then President of the Wisconsin Synodical to Mrs. Pierson indicated that "the spirit, intention and wording of the articles is in harmony with the desires of the General assembly of the Synodical of Wisconsin and the Woman's Board." We cannot find the article of agreement between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Synodical Society as given on pages 2 and 3 of the statement which I am enclosing. That copy I received from Wisconsin and Mrs. Weissert who signed that is still treasurer and I think can answer any questions concerning it. I would be very glad if you could find out if they still consider this binding or whether there has been any further action abrogating this. You see if this is put with article third of their articles of incorporation it means that the Woman's Board of Home Missions has a legal right and moral responsibility for helping to decide on the work to be done through the medium of the Marquis income and that this Board will have a very definite right in the disposition of the principal from the estate when this is paid over. I would be glad if you could find out without undue questioning

(1) Whether Wisconsin women still consider this agreement of February 1903 binding.
(2) When is it probable the estate will be closed and the principal paid over - note that this comes through the treasurer of the Synodical Society to the Woman's Board according the the agreement.
(3) Exactly the objects for which the Vaughn-Marquis estate is now being

used and how they expect to adjust such a fluctuating income as this is.

If you can get hold of the Year Book of Wisconsin for 1917 and 1918 you will find on pages 16 and 17 the last report. What I wish to know is, if there is anything further than this. Let me indicate to you that if the agreement holds, they have reallybno right to take the Contingent Fund money out of the Marquis estate without the permission of the Woman's Board.

As I have said before I think you had better be very careful about how much you say and let them open the question rather than to do it yourself. For you are not, I know, expected to know that there are any difficulties in the situation. There is one more thing, however, and that is that I think you can be emphatic on the question that we would never approve of an Executive Committee from which any officers of the Synodical Society were barred. I think you can say with absolute truthfulness that the tendency there is to give these closer connection and that anything which would make any of the secretaries feel that they were not as useful as others would be greatly deprecated by us.

It is a great disappointment to me that it has been impossible for me to go to Neenah but it is out of the question. Perhaps my absence, however, is as well for as I was not expected it would be expected that I knew there were difficulties. I wish you would let me know after your experiences whether you think it would be well for me to plan to go to Wisconsin for the next Quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee. I realize that I am asking a great deal in the way of letter writing. Do not hesitate to get a good stenographer (after you leave the state of Wisconsin) and dictate all this material fully. Try and let me know where the women stand and your impressions of them. I am sorry to bother you because I know how busy you are but this is really a very important matter.

Believe me that I am,

Faithfully yours,

657 Union Street
Appleton, Wis.
Oct 20, 1909

Mrs F. A. Bennett
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

My dear Mrs Bennett:-

Your letter received a week ago was most welcome. It was a disappointment not to have you at the Synodical Society Meeting, but I realize how very difficult it must be to arrange plans to include even one section of the great Synodical family.

We have enjoyed Miss Streeter, who in her happy way has brought so much knowledge of the field and enthusiasm and courage to do better and higher things. We are so glad she is coming to Appleton later. We need a broader vision.

I was so grateful for the timely advice to be careful not to "dictate". Thank you too, for the duplicate letter enclosed. I wish I could tell you how very helpful your letters have been in clarifying the ideas and giving me a grasp of the right situation. I do appreciate it.

Surely prayers are answered at this time and God's Guidance was most manifest all through the

meeting. Ere this you have had a full report.

The situation was tense at first, but the Heavenly Father led us in the way we should go and I take the way is now open for such a government as you suggested in an earlier letter. We are so thankful.

I did not go to Milwaukee after the meeting, but I sent your letter and my reply to both Miss Wells and Mrs Yale for correction, if necessary. They have been so very helpful and have had such long experience that I have great confidence.

Miss Wells has felt so keenly the difficulties our relation with Synod presented and it was to avoid, if possible, any open discussion on that point that she presented her arguments and requested her report be accepted in the place of the majority report, which is in accord with Roberts Rules (p 216) by which we are governed.

Miss Wells has worked so conscientiously. You will appreciate her loyalty and earnestness when you learn it has all been worked out in odd moments when a very sick aged father did not require her presence. She cannot leave him more than an hour at a time and that when he sleeps.

Enclosed is a copy of her report, but I shall have to ask its return, as this is the only copy I have. The fact there was not a copy left in the chairs after the session shows our women have had an awakening to the importance of these things. How thankful we should be!

3

The Chairman of the Committee on Incorporation and Bylaws moved the minority report be read saying Miss Nelles had been a most helpful member to the Committee, but all could not agree. Then by consent of the assembly, the copies were distributed & all present.

The vote to substitute the minority for the majority report was lost by a small majority. That meant the majority report would be discussed article by article. The meeting adjourned for luncheon. Silent prayers were offered, & hymns, and were heard. In the afternoon Mrs McElroy moved that we work under the old Constitution for another year until all women had a better understanding and had given more consideration to the matter. It was carried by a large majority. It was a most fortunate solution to the difficulty.

The same committee was continued with the exception of Miss Nelles who resigned from all work. The name of Mrs Bluhet was added to the list making six members.

So if you wish to make any suggestions I shall be only too glad to do all I can to make them effective in committee.

I shall ascertain as soon as possible whether it will be in accord with the Wisconsin Statutes to change to a trusteeship such as you suggested and will write again then.

Thanking you for your interest and most helpful

counsel and for the prayers I have now
offered and answered, I am,
Very sincerely,
(Mrs. R. C.) Horace W. Sleeper

I have delayed this letter hoping to
find an extra copy of the Divinity report, and have
been unsuccessful. Do not return it.

November 3, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Yale:

I have been very much interested in hearing from Miss Streeter that the matter of the constitution for the Synodical Society of Wisconsin was laid over for consideration for one year. This gives opportunity to work quietly to bring about a wise solution of the present situation. It is probable that so soon as I can plan to do so I shall come to Wisconsin possibly to meet with the Board of Directors. That, as I understand it, would be the first Wednesday of December, March, June, and September. I am writing you at this time especially to ask whether you can tell me if the agreement which was reached between the Board of Home Missions and the Woman's Synodical Society of Wisconsin, and signed by the officers of each body and of which you sent me a copy, was ever filed in the records of the State of Wisconsin? Can you tell me further how well this agreement is known by the women of Wisconsin or has it been lost sight of by them? As I regret to say it was lost sight of by New York because of the various changes in officers. I would be most glad to hear from you relative to this for my next step will be controlled somewhat at least by your answer to these questions.

With every good wish believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

November 3, 1919.

Mrs. L. C. Sleeper,
657 Union Street,
Appleton, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Sleeper:

Your letter of October 20th was most welcome. I cannot tell you how glad I was to know of the spirit that prevailed at the meeting at Neenah and that no hasty action was taken. Now that the adoption of a new constitution has been postponed for a year there is time to think through this situation carefully and to plan therefore. It is probable that I will go to Wisconsin for one meeting of the Board of Directors. I cannot just now say what one but when I can decide on the date when it will be possible for me to be away from New York I will write Mrs. Mishoff asking her if this would be satisfactory to her. I am very hopeful now that everything is coming out well. I am glad that Miss Streeter was with you and that she could be a help. She is a woman of fine spirit and I feel that she is a strength to any group to which she may go. I shall be very glad to take up with you, as a member of the Committee, the details as to your work on the Committee on Constitution and By-laws but I believe that if I can plan to come to Wisconsin later we can do this so much better by word of mouth than we could any other way so that I am just now going to let the matter rest until I see what the later plans will be. You hold a meeting of the Board of Directors the first Wednesday in December, do you not?

With every good wish believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

Milwaukee, Dec. 6th, 1916.

My dear Bro. Bennett,

Your kind letter of Dec. 3rd is at hand and I desire to reply to your inquiries at once.

We did greatly regret that we could not arrange to be present at the recent Victory, or we fear that the situation must be in some sense new to handle.

Such never was a year when there was such earnest prayer on every hand — nor a time when this matter was witnessed to by those who remained at home. Bro. Ellis gave over his work and Bro. Maynard and others had assisted by every way possible.

The program was carefully planned, and

---

the Committee faithfully carried out, and we
have unanimously decided that Bro. Maynard
serve the Convention as Moderator, Bro. Barnard,
former President, by turning it over to Bro. Maynard.
Bro. Miller Secretary — and Bro. Bradley Treasurer.
Bro. Barnard — Assistant Secretary.
This legacy was to be beyond their grasp and
their ability to control it continued, stronger
measures were determined upon.
At the meeting of the Bd. Dir. on Oct 16th
Bro. Barnard, then President, made this statement
from the Com. "that she would like to have the
money, for that she was under the power of the Spirit that
to," meaning the Milwaukee women. The day, during
the Synodical meeting, Bro. Barnard made the
motion (which was carried unanimously) that all
income from the Bd.
issues except the Bro. appropriated for the Sunday Con-

Thursday morning early Miss Maynard learned that the
ministry papers was not to be read. You can imagine the
tension. Miss Stanley is here and sensed the situation.
We did not wish the minutes read to be accepted —
that would have been unfortunate. It was determined to
mission and vote, with Mrs. Sleeper added to the committee
another year. Stanley has a constitution framed which can
be adopted. Miss Hall resigned from the com. and from
the Board of Directors also. Her father's health is precarious and
she felt she could not give him the care he needs and
work under such continued strain. Her resignation
was to take effect — in this month of year.
This accepted to the organization.
The situation in Korea has been unsatisfactory to us
all and you can see from my Reports, dear Mrs. Bennett,
and we are discouraged. By reason of the dissensions
Your sisters and Son Mrs. Trainer

an impartial attitude toward all.
Your inquiries in your letter of October 8th were this day
read to the Board — The estate is to be divided
upon the death of the last heir. He is an adopted son,
Harry Hamilton — about 20 yrs. old, residing in Scotland
Co. — at last account. He formed a disappointment
to Mrs. Hamilton — and as understood was (some years when
residing in Brainerd) addicted to drink.
Mrs. Stewart has been our treasurer (since last report
since Oct. 1898.) Dec. 7, 1898.
Her husband is an invalid and this is a great deal
for the organization to bear — Sabbath
morning the 4th of this month. She stated, that
her husband had the charge of this matter and that
the Board would be glad to have the Rec. of State.
Miss Hall at once regarding the documents
and forward from the latter part of this.
There is practically no knowledge shown

and explain Dr. Hunt's attitude + ^pro^ own in the matter. Saturday, Mrs. Mishoff joined Mrs. Maynard and he later told us she should have called a committee officer & in deciding a matter of such import.

Mrs. Mishoff replied "I had consulted Mrs. Board."

Mrs. Maynard — "There were other officers who should have been consulted." Florence was Mrs. Bishop suggested Simpson if was ag to Dec. auditor.

Appropriate things to be annual events.

Mrs. Prescott was appointed treasurer — safeguarding funds at every turn and seeking from each interest possible for the year.

The auditor still is Mrs. Blair & Mrs. Bishop appointed to Mrs. Carrier.

Most unfortunately — for the first time — a question arose as to the entering of some sum. The auditor did not make a report. The treasurer's report was not accepted. This will come up in Dec.

Mrs. Prescott moved & was going to speak but Mrs. Mishoff had asked some one to accept the office of treasurer for the coming year. She had already telephoned Mrs. Prescott. Mrs. Prescott's record is unimpeachable and she was elected to the B. of D — not Mrs. Mishoff. There is a reason in this, you understand.

Roman moved to appoint Mrs. Prescott as treasurer with all the funds at the annual meeting (from the nine months) Mrs. Maynard seconded. The same system on since 1910. S. H. V. Com. got the right to the past year. It evidently has been figured but another year would see the plans perfected, so one year more would see the matter in their control.

The question of money — fortunately arrived at a satisfactory type. Possession is their only thought. Income not mentioned and known no detail. As the guide appointed Miss Allen + Brandt each made a note book in which all data concerning this agency and its use has been recorded. Each had a copy of the rule, please etc.

At the Board of Directors meeting at Penah were the recommendations by the com. to use the interest from our savings funds for contingent expenses was passed with a mental hatchet buried — according to the constitution another year would give us the necessary funds, etc. etc.

Mrs. D. L. Williams stated, "this fund could be used for this purpose as well as for the work itself."

Upon a protest "You cannot use the fund for

that purpose" She never questioned "Why?"
The recommendation made, I departed the
first to tread the Sorrow sand - and very sad-
dened we were not compelled to.
The journey home was a sad one, as we discuss-
ed her - the first Mrs. Parker, Mary Lamb + Sept.
She absorbed me, in the year I was there.
Present by Barrett Browning, Coleridge, Lamb
March 18th. The church was crowded in April to hear
Mrs. Parker preach her annual sermon in May.

The present minister is not a very deep one, as I discuss
matters to come up which are not pleasant.
Please pardon my mentioning this - but it
will be over in a week after Dec. 3rd.

Mrs. H. H. Edwards was made Hon. Pres.
(Mrs. Clement Fawcett)
nominating com. - her remarks became finally
withdrawn in this affair after which and his

Remarks & prayer had Benediction & passed.
Then in earnest Christian prayer-and after-we
separated. Mrs. Parker, Miss Lamb, Mrs. Edwards
& Mrs. Sept. Parker & I. Mrs. Parker & Miss Lamb
& Mrs. Edwards & I to Mrs. Edwards' home
for supper - & then Mrs. Parker & I to Mrs.
Parker's - & then I to Mrs. Edwards' where I
remained until 1 A.M. Mrs. Edwards came to Mrs
Parker's after supper & remained until 12 M.
Sunday, Dec. 9th. Mrs. Edwards came to Mrs Parker's
for breakfast, & read me Mrs. Hunt's letter to
Mrs. Edwards, in which she said "Mrs. Parker, Miss
Lamb & Mrs. Edwards came to Boston to see me."
I replied, "I have received that letter & Miss Lamb is dominated by
some one there in Boston, Mrs. Barrett." I replied that I had
received that letter two months ago & followed Miss
Lamb's advice & destroyed it. (1917)
Mrs. Hunt stated that Mrs. Parker & Mrs. Edwards
met Mr. Edwards letter & later Mrs. Barrett had
come to him and said that her present Russian
situation & Warsaw etc. & withdrew etc.
Mr. Edwards went to the Parkers' home that evening
and left at midnight. The conclusion was that Mrs.
Mathers should see Mrs. Maynard & Mrs. Fitzgerald

Then we recall the many years that he took [illegible]
interest in the Institution and the success which
and the kindness, service and consideration which
were bestowed — we can not express [illegible]
situation such as this to [illegible].

Mrs. Hayes [illegible] "many times said" how she
wished the name could be [illegible] "Hayes Board
Home" & "Hayes Industrial Home" and
we commit it to [illegible].

To one could foresee such a condition,
[illegible] joining [illegible] Dr. Compton

Emily assistance, from me Brooke V. Vale

Mrs. Maitland did not appear at Trial.

Ivan D. Bussoff is a Russian. (Tsarist) Asst minister he did work among the Italians in the 3rd ward. His English friend his occupying a pulpit. Later he became a physician. Him. He my elder members of Emmanuel Church which I attended at that time. His Wife classes them both as revolutionists.

MERLIN HULL
SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MADISON, WISCONSIN

November 10, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Yale:

I have yours of November 7, enclosing a copy of a release executed by E. L. Thompson, Secretary of the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, to the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin, and I note your request for information as to whether or not this agreement was ever filed in the records of the State of Wisconsin.

Replying thereto, I would state that no such document has been filed with this Department, and, so far as I am able to ascertain, it has not been filed with any other department of the State. In fact, I know of no reason why it should be filed with any of the State departments.

I would suggest to you that if you can ascertain the county in which the will of the late Emeline Vaughn Marquis was probated and write to the county judge of that county, you would be able to ascertain what were the facts from the records of the probate court. I know of no other way of finding the information.

Presuming that this copy may be of further service to you in the matter, I am returning it herewith.

Very truly yours,

Merlin Hull

Secretary of State

MH-K

V

667 Union Street
Appleton Wis
Nov. 12, 1919

Mrs F. L. Bennett,
156 Fifth Av.
New York.

My dear Mrs Bennett:-

Your letter was most welcome and the knowledge that you are to come "sometime" might mean possible relief and happiness

I have been wondering

two more problems would
now be adjusted and now
the way seems clear at last.

There will be a regular
quarterly meeting of the
Board of Directors in December,
the third. I have been
making out the calendar for
the new year so will ask
you the exact dates of the
other meetings also: March 3
June 2, September 1.

I am trying to gain
the information relative to

I89 Dwight Place,
Englewood, N.J. 8/18,'19.

My dear Mrs. Sleeper:-

Your letter of August I2th is at hand and has been read with much interest. I cannot, however, find copies of the present Constitution of the Wisconsin Homedical Society or of the proposed changes therein so can express no opinion. Will you be good enough to mail me both of the above, as I want to compare the old and the new. Then I will gladly write you as fully as I can.

It is a matter of great regret that Wisconsin is passing through such difficulty, but I do hope that soon all things will be cleared up and that there may be harmony and cooperative service.

Awaiting the material from you, I am,
Very sincerely yours,

Please mail to my home address above.

Milwaukee, Nov. 15th, 1919.

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

Enclosed please find reply to inquiry. Have kept a copy. Have written Burch and Landmark, Oakland, Executors, to determine whether such release is on file in Oakland County.

May I quote from Statutes of Wisconsin:

General Provisions relating to corporations —

Powers Conferred — Section 1748: "Every corporation organized under any general or special law, where no other provision is specially made by law or by its articles of organization shall have the following powers:—

(1) To make all contracts necessary and proper to effect its purposes and conduct its business.

(6) To take and hold property, both real and personal to an amount authorized by law, and sell, convey or otherwise dispose of same."

According to the interpretation by the courts in 1901 it has always been understood that at the time of division of this estate, the W.S.M.S. of Wis. would receive the one fourth of the estate. However, should the time come for such an interpretation again to be made, you have the necessary information and papers and will be prepared to represent the Woman's Board of Home Missions. You know what we feel would be for the best interests of the Missionary life of Wisconsin. In either case the income according to the provisions of the will — must always be expended in Wisconsin.

This question may be put to you and I felt you might wish to have your information in definite form.

Will forward my reply from

Ashland County upon receipt.

With deep appreciation of your generous assistance,

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs. H. P.) Blanche R. Gale

VAUGHN-MARQUIS ESTATE

JOHN H. BURCH
C. A. LAMOREUX } Trustees

ASHLAND, - WISCONSIN

November 19, 1919.

Mrs. M. P. Yale,

3011 State Street,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Madam:

Yours of the 13th inst., enclosing copy of agreement between the two societies named therein received. In reply, we are advised by the Abstract Co. that there is no instrument of record, referred to in your letter, on file in the office of the Register of Deeds or probate court of Ashland County. We also are advised that the recording of such agreement is un-necessary so far as we, as trustees, are concerned, our duty being to pay over certain funds to the beneficiaries named in the will.

Trusting that this will answer your inquiry,

remain

Yours respectfully,

JMB/EF.

Burch & Lamoreux Trustees

Ashland Guarantee Title Company

A. E. BENOE, MANAGER

ABSTRACTERS

PROMPTNESS AND ACCURACY GUARANTEED

MEMBERS OF
Wisconsin Association of Title Men

MEMBER OF
American Association of Title Men

Ashland, Wis., November 19,1919

Burch & Lamoreux, Trustees,

City.

Gentlemen:

As you requested, we have made an examination of the records in the office of the Register of Deeds for Ashland County and also the records in the Probate Court of Ashland County and fail to find any record of any agreement between the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A and the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church of Wisconsin.

Yours very truly

Ashland Guarantee Title Company

A.E. Benoe

Princeton, Nov. 21st, 1919

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

Professor Van Dusen reached me Thursday afternoon - your note and enclosed.

There are two matters which I wish to mention. First, in the first year medical course there is an hour, Wednesday, Nov. 12, Dr. Vincent, on Typhoid Fever, which I am sure you will wish to attend. Secondly, I am sending you a check for $100 to be used in any way you may think best for the Memorial Fund. I am sorry that I cannot send more, but I am sure that you will understand.

I am very much pleased with the plan for the Memorial Fund, and I am sure that it will be a great success. I am sending a check for $100 to be used in any way you may think best for the Memorial Fund. I am sorry that I cannot send more, but I am sure that you will understand.

a second building, we would then have "Ledger Memorial" second - Mrs. Brewer made the suggestion: "Peabody, could Mrs. Bennett transfer Mrs. Vanderbilt to Barnard (go over this field together) from the Board assumes its right." Mrs. Vanderbilt cannot [illegible] at Barnard and she has the means of that communication per Miss Peabody - that was one of the reasons why she was so earnest in planning to work among these medical people. (Very few Faculty Members [illegible] ...ed, for one Sunday.) This is some discussion of this and also in Miss Mrs. V.B. will return [illegible] Sunday over some combination arrange, or the Trustees to in the hands of the Medical Board is to recommend to the V.B. of Home Missions to [illegible] to our Sun. School?

Synod — each year a larger sum of its expenses to be carried, until Missions assumed its entire. (As the ratio is now on a sliding scale.)
Has $1000. which has risen in 1906 to be returned to them by the W.S.H.M. Society — so that we could go to Gardner in this field. Since that day Synod home Missions Com. did not contribute one dollar toward this work.
In minutes of Synod, last fall, Statistical this Com. has Scheduled $2600. toward this Parish.
We could not understand. Mr. Jenah, talked with Pres. Davis and his explanation was that as Com. Meeting is held in Sept. and Synod in June — a number have come and said that $2000. is just what this work is worth. When the Church called into this must just be $2600. — that $2600. could be $1000. this year by the W.H.M.S. (or our his money would supply the promise of the 5 years. As the Gardner we must have the S.H.M. Com. use to have $1000. for a term of 5 years. (total 5000.) — but if this was the understanding, it was an extreme demand on a mission to the S.H.M. Society Credit Dept. Woman's Board.
This work is for the betterment of our State; whether our Society has done has allowed the men to that amount.
Pres. Superintendent State that Mission Work is complete, we would in me, give it to Synod — this by Pres. Dennis present at Beloit, 1907 for growth was, should our funds permit

administrator [illegible] to minister unto.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

I have more amongst the present [illegible]
(including the chairman, a [illegible] who could
receive over one hundred [illegible] per [illegible]
for years, Mr. [illegible] Gabbing who resigned [illegible]
chairman. To enter more [illegible] than ten years,
over one hundred [illegible] to above mine.

I will be very [illegible], dear Mrs. Bennett,
to pay your subscription of one [illegible]
dear [illegible] to resign as [illegible] for life;
the demand made upon your time and strength,
and the additional responsibilities placed
upon you.

Your kindness in [illegible] and [illegible] has
your election as President [illegible] Women's Branch
Home Missions Committee, [illegible] in this

December 16, 1919.

Mrs. H. P. Yale,
3011 State Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Mrs. Yale:

Thank you for the trouble that you taken relative to learning whether the agreement between the Synodical Society of Wisconsin and the Board of Home Missions had been recorded. I do not, however, think that it is any the less operative because it has not been. I hope, however, that we shall not have to invoke it. I like very much the suggestion that, if possible, I go with Mrs. Fitzgerald over the Gogebic Parish for I would then have a much clearer thought relative to the whole work. I cannot just now say when it is going to be possible for me to go to Wisconsin. At present I am looking forward to a trip to Cuba in February. Of course, the middle of the winter to go into northern Wisconsin with a view to looking over the situation would not be very satisfactory so that I am simply writing at this rather rather briefly to say that I will hold all of the communications I have received from you and after my return from Cuba, I will take up the whole matter with a view to trying to find some time when it will be possible to go to Wisconsin to remain long enough to cover all the details. Would it really be better to wait until June because of the roads? May, of course, is an impossible month for me and I am a little afraid that earlier in the year the weather would be prohibitive.

It is a most wonderful thing that matters turned as they did at the meeting in October and that we have this year in which to plan the best possible way of meeting the whole situation. I am leaving for other meetings now so I know you will appreciate my brevity at this time.

With every good wish believe me that I am

Faithfully yours,

Mr. Mole

Bismarck, Dec. 26, 1892.

Dear Bro. Bennett,

Your kind note received on Christmas morning, and I was glad to receive "Christmas Greetings" from my fellow pilgrim.

I have not planned for our Praise service, Jan. 5th in our local organization.

Some years ago we were in the habit of meeting and conducting what we delighted to call "Watch Night" (Watch Night) services on the last Sunday in the year - with a banquet in the afternoon, and a social time in the evening. Since, I have considered it to

Mr. Mole

Bismarck, Dec. 26, 1892.

Dear Bro. Bennett,

Your kind note received on Christmas morning, and I was glad to receive "Christmas Greetings" from my fellow pilgrim."

I have not planned for our Praise service, Jan. 5th in our local organization.

Some years ago we were in the habit of meeting and conducting what we delighted to call "Watch Night" services on the last Sunday in the year - with a banquet in the afternoon, and a social time in the evening. Since, I have considered it to

the advantage of the Administration Council not to have it on the same day as the Executive Session. The position was offered to Williams - "Via Scotia" stated - & in consideration of it.

[illegible] Treasurer of the Am. Miss. Ass'n, and [illegible]
[illegible] Secretary of the Board, and [illegible]
[illegible] Treasurer of the Miss. Union, and [illegible]
[illegible] Secretary of the Miss. Union, and [illegible]
[illegible] Secretary of the Miss. Union, and [illegible]
[illegible] Secretary

Copy
Returned originals to
read at our next meeting in
Sept. 7 Women's Convention
B.R. Yale

SYNOD OF WISCONSIN

AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Madison, Wis., May 7, 1920.

The President of the Ladies' Aid Society:
Milwaukee Presbyterian Church,

Dear Madam:

On behalf of the Synod of Wisconsin I want to thank the Presbyterian women of the State for their generous and hearty support of the Dean of Presbyterian Women at the University. The salary for the year, Oct. 1,1919-Oct.1,1920, has already been subscribed to within $111.50 of the $1,800 required, and we think subscriptions for the balance will be forthcoming soon. The subscriptions also have been largely paid in.

When I first appealed to the women on this subject I intimated that the appeal to them would be only for this year. Some in the Synod, not knowing much about the University conditions and needs, looked on the matter as a sort of venture anyway. The Synod is now so enthusiastic over Mrs. McKee's work that the Administrative Council of the Synod, meeting April 27th in Madison where it could see things at first hand, included the cause in its budget for the coming year. The Synod is thus "acting square" with the women, by assuming this responsibility.

But personally I have come to feel very strongly, that I do not wish this cause to pass out of the hands of the women. I feel that their needs will be best considered if the women of the Synod their mothers and sisters and girl friends-- feel the pressure of respnsibility for them and an interest in them that is always bearing on their minds.

I am, therefore, making bold, as one who knows the situation, to ask the women to continue the support of the Deam as their share in the work here as women, a share which as women, I am confident they will be glad to bear. I think that Mrs. McKee would feel a special interest in her work if she felt that the mothers were back of her, caring through her for their daughters and others' daughters.

There is another consideration. The Synod's workers at the University cannot do their work properly without suitable building equipment. The Synod has recently bought a "Headquarters" for the work-- the best in Madison. The property includes a "Presbyterian Girls' Dormitory." It cost $45,000. It has to be paid for through the churches and by private subscriptions. Now please consider carefully the next paragraph.

Synod's Administrative Council on April 27th, authorized five per cent of its New Era fund for the next year, for the salaries and expenses of its workers-- Mrs. McKee and myself and perhaps student secretary-- at the University. As I am also held responsible for raising the money to pay for the "Headquarters," I arose and asked the Council this question: "If the salaries and expenses can be partly provided, so as not to use all that the five per cent of New Era funds will amount to, can we have the balance to apply on payment for the Headquarters. By consent it was agreed that we could.

If now the women will pay Mrs. McKee's salary they will not only be supporting her as their special interest, but by releasing the $1,800 required for this from the five per cent of New Era funds they will be directly contributing just this amount ($1,800) to payment on the Headquarters. Also, any additional amounts the Societies may be willing to contribute over last year will be just that much more to be applied on the Headquarters.

The payment for this property is a big undertaking. I appeal to the women to help all they can And always remember that in supporting Mrs. McKee you are doing things-- supporting YOUR Dean of Women as your share of the work, and by providing this support-- or more-- furnishing her with buildings for her work among the hundreds of Presbyterian girls away from their homes at this officially non-religious State institution.

Yours very gratefully,

(Signed) M. G. ALLISON.

Director of Religious Work.

P. S. I am sending literature on the Headquarters for the information of the women.

Copy

WHAT THE WOMEN SAY

Extracts from letters from the two women representatives of the Administrative Council of the Synod who were present at its meeting in Madison, April 27.

From letter of Mrs. I. D. Mishoff, Milwaukee, President of the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society:

"With the impression, fresh in my mind, that Madison makes upon the visitor,- namely, that its chief business is the education of our youth, I feel that a most encouraging sign of the day is that our Christian people have awakened to the real need existing of Christian work among the students.

"Surely nothing can be more appealing to the women of our State than the need of a Christian woman worker among the hundreds of Presbyterian girls in the University. What a splendid opportunity for our Ladies' Aid Societies to unite their forces on THIS ONE BIG TASK of supporting such a worker, and feeling that as Christian mothers we are thereby placing right influences about our own or some other mother's daughter.

"We have begun such work this year with most gratifying results. Shall we not, as WISCONSIN PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN, feel that this is OUR JOB - and make provision each year for the salary of such a worker, that our girls, while at Madison, may be guided by one who temporarily may mean to them - MOTHER?"

x x x x x x x x x x

"We surely did enjoy inspecting "our property" in Madison - the Presbyterian Headquarters recently acquired - for I think already we feel a part or personal ownership in it. It is most attractive and promises much for future work. If every good Presbyterian in the State could but see it and get into the spirit of its purpose, it would soon be paid for and our students in Madison would be immediate gainers thereby."

From letter of Mrs. Harry L. Woods, LaCrosse, President of La Crosse Presbyterial Society:

"After visiting in Madison and viewing the site recently purchased by our Synod for Presbyterian Headquarters, I am more enthusiastic than ever over the work of Mrs. McKee and the opportunity it opens up to the women of our church throughout the State. It would be a splendid thing if WE - the women of Wisconsin - would consider Mrs. McKee's work as our special charge."

WOMAN'S COMMITTEE
COUNCIL OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
BERGEN COUNTY DIVISION
NEW JERSEY

COUNTY CHAIRMAN: MRS. F. S. BENNETT,
149 DWIGHT PLACE
ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: MRS. B. C. WOOSTER
176 PROSPECT STREET
HACKENSACK, N. J.

DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

FOOD: MRS. LEONIE N. BLAIR,
224 ELM AVENUE, HACKENSACK, N. J.

CHILD WELFARE: MRS. [illegible]
WOODCLIFF LAKE

LIBERTY LOAN: MRS. B. C. WOOSTER,
176 PROSPECT STREET, HACKENSACK, N. J.

CAMP RECREATIONAL WORK: MRS. F. S. BENNETT,
149 DWIGHT PLACE, ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

SPEAKERS' BUREAU: MRS. A. Z. BOGERT,
RIVER EDGE

GIRLS' PATRIOTIC LEAGUE: MISS KATHERINE GARDNER
19 HUMPHREY STREET, ENGLEWOOD, N. J.

June 14, 1920.

Miss Katherine S. Maynard,
459 Juneau Place,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

My dear Miss Maynard:

Thank you very much indeed for your note of June 4th saying that the original copy of the agreement between the Board of Home Missions and the Synodical Society of Wisconsin has been found. I am sure that the Board of Home Missions must have their copy in the archives and I shall again ask to have a search made for it. I have a copy but I wanted to be sure that there was an original extant.

I have just written Mrs. Maynard that I shall be very glad to be at the Synodical meeting at Madisen next October. I hope she and the others will not be shocked at my request that I speak at least twice. There seems so much to say and I so seldom reach the women personally that I crave an opportunity to bring a message from the Board to them fully.

Thank you very much indeed for all your cordial words concerning the meetings at Philadelphia. I do feel that they were very worth while and I hope that they may be a means of larger service than any that has been given before.

With most pleasant anticipations of seeing you next October believe me that I am

Cordially yours,

M. K. B.

459 JUNEAU PLACE
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

June 4th--1920

My Dear Mrs. Bennett:-

Referring to our conversation in Philadelphia, I have been making inquiries and find that we have an original copy of the agreement with the Board of Home Missions in regard to the money received from the Vaughn-Marquis estate in our Synodical vault here. There were undoubtedly two original copies, signed by Mrs. Vedder, Dr. Thompson and others, and our women feel sure the Home Board must have the other one in it's archives somewhere. This decision was reached in 1903 and our document bears that date. I think you said you had seen a copy of that agreement so I am not sending one now but if you would like it please let me know.

It seemed to me best to state frankly that there might be a possibility of your coming to us in October

at Madison, so in giving my report of "What Next?", at our quarterly meeting Wednesday, I said that I hoped they might all have a chance to hear you themselves and thought there might be if they tried. They were delighted and immediately took action as mother has written you.

It was a great pleasure and inspiration to me to hear and meet the women who planned and had charge of out great task here in America and I am sure my interest will be more keen than ever before. If I can do anything here for you at any time please be sure to let me know. Thank you so much for giving me the time to explain to you about our situation here, I did feel that it was very important for you to know and those things are much better talked over than written about.

Hoping that you are getting rested after those strenuous days, I remain,

Most cordially yours,

Katherine S. Maynard

Letter from Mrs. Deeper -

657 Union Street,
Appleton, Wis.,
Aug. 5, 1920.

My dear Mrs. Williams:

Your special delivery letter and enclosed amendments, received the morning of August third, were welcome. I have waited long for the call to action and you have given me a short time in which to express my views to the committee.

You say you wrote to me "in the winter and again in the late spring." There must be some mistake. The only letters that have been received from you were one dated April 12th, in response to my request for information about White Cross sewing, in which you stated you had "done nothing about our work on amendments," and the other of June 13th, in which you asked my opinion on the multigraph notices and informed me the committee would not meet because "there is no fund for expense."

I have been much interested in the work of this committee, because very soon after coming into this particular office, I was appalled to learn of my responsibility to the state for the acts of this organization, so I have looked into things rather minutely. Therefore, better perhaps than you know, I realize the responsibility of this committee in attempting to revise the constitution and at the same time to continue to promote the development of the missionary spirit among our women, and secondarily promote its welfare as a corporate body.

That is why I have so keenly regretted that the committee as such, have not had an opportunity to meet and discuss the more detailed points, if not in committee meeting at least by correspondence.

As a new member of the committee I have waited, per Roberts Rules, for the "Committee to reorganize after the Annual meeting" so I might at least know why there was a need for all this change and also the views that had been advanced by the various members. Why should I "suggest" when I knew not the reason for a change.

It is customary, I believe, for each member of a committee to be informed on all points and views of all members of that committee.

Perhaps you do not appreciate that I was not present at Wausau, and while I have heard you read the amendments twice, I have heard no argument for a change. I have had nothing from you as chairman of the Committee except your report read at Neenah and the one or two points we discussed informally after the Omro meeting.

I was glad last October that I was to work with you because I hoped we could possibly come to an understanding. Therefore my own disappointment has been keen that I have not been given a chance until now.

Before you and I ever thought of Synodical work, my mother, with others, was experiencing anxious moments as to whether the funds would be sufficient to accomplish this or that piece of work in the mission fields. That was where there was a different system for funds. I well remember the joy that came with the larger opportunities made possible by the legacy and I remember her consternation the year she had to report "Only twenty three ($23.00) dollars." I can visualize the returns from the legacy in joys and disappointments in the ability or inability to accomplish mission work. You evidently see in it "the spending of a few hundreds or thousands of a legacy."

I <u>know</u> what it has meant to her.

As I have read over the old records, I marvel at the conscientious, thoughtful, painstaking effort and care that has crowned all these years of struggle in a great cause. The work stands. I know I have much to learn from my mother of Christian charity, and patience and faithful endeavor for sheer love of a great work.

These women struggled when people were not interested in missions, when money was not "easy" and they had to build against great odds. Wisconsin stood high then in the estimates of the Boards, not "one of twenty three highest" as recently reported.

I note in these amendments that Art. VI, sec. 2 and 3 have been omitted, also the third paragraph in the Bylaws Art. III, sec. 4 as printed in July 1919 Wisconsin Presbyterian. Was this an oversight in typing or intentional?

Is it customary to make a report to Synod? (Art 5 sec 4)

Every organization appoints delegates and since delegates are mentioned in Art. VIII and Bylaws Art. VII, would it not be well to have the provision definitely stated in the Constitution?

I'll confess I cannot see the sense of the election of delegates by societies---when their voting number could be more than carried by the individual members of a local society entertaining the meeting. I prefer equality.

It was done I suppose to encourage attendance of individual members at Annual meetings and for that reason I would not object. Iowa, Minnesota, New York and others limit voting on election of officers and constitutional questions to accrediated delegates.

You speak twice of action taken at Wausau meeting. We are not bound in any way by that action this year. All action taken on the constitution at Wausau was rescinded at Neenah last October. You have a clear slate.

My criticism of these amendments is that they are neither consistent or practical or in accord with the spirit and object for which we are organized.

May I make two premises as the basis for my arguments which are not new, it merely brings the question before us.

I. The Woman's Synodical Society was organized to meet a specific need because women were ready to assume a definite responsibility in addition to their part as church members---that of fostering the missionary spirit and missionary organizations for women and young people of the churches in our state. It is a part of a great organization of women, approved by the church, cooperating with it, but having assigned to it, its own definite work.

II. The Woman's Synodical Society in order to hold property and conduct necessary business was incorporated in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

Because it is necessary to meet the requirements of the state law regarding corporations, some power must be taken from the Society as a whole and vested in a governing board. That Board should be sufficiently large not to destroy the primary purpose of the organization and yet should be a feasible working body.

A Board of 105 directors seems to meet both requirements. This number chosen throughout the state allows sufficient representation at meetings and a sufficient field for proper selections of officers and secretaries.

If the proposed amendments go into effect and three presbyteries must be represented at meetings of the Board of Directors to do any business, as statistics since 1915 will prove. Five presbyteries have always had the opportunity to attend, but have not done so. Yet there has been an average attendance to transact business equal to very nearly the number of the proposed directorate. At least 8 different auxiliaries have been represented at the smallest meetings.

With a directorate limited to 45 the representation would be even smaller at meetings especially with the further limitations made in Bylaws Art. IX, sec. 3.

Last September there was no quorum present and if officers had come from a distance, the expense incurred would have been considerable and useless.

The duties of the Board are not defined in present amendments and should be----

If the Board of Directors are qualified to elect the officers, would it not seem as if they would be qualified to fill vacancies. (Art. IV, sec. 4) ? Sec. 1776 Wisconsin Statutes grants the right to fill vacancies to the directorate. They are responsible to the society for all officers and should be responsible for such standing and special committees as they see fit to establish. Art 5 sec 1.

Art. IV, sec. 2 and Bylaws Art. I, sec. 1. It does not seem consistent with the spirit of the Annual meeting which is inspirational, to "set apart" time on the program of the Annual meeting for the Election of officers by the Board of Directors, which often takes considerable time when balloting must be done.

Roberts Rules says, "The new board meets immediately after the convention." and again "After each annual meeting the board elects, etc. "

If the government of the Society is to be vested in a Board of Directors would it not be well to have a definite time of meeting instead of being dependent on "special meetings called by the president or recording secretary on the written request of any three directors"? "No business except that which has been specified in the call and notice can be legally transacted at a special meeting." It might be necessary to do so to save a second call in an emergency. Notice not having been given, what then?

Years of experience have proven that certain business arises at certain definite times. Regular meetings to meet these problems should be specified in the amendments.

California, Colorado, Minnesota and others have regular quarterly meetings of the Executive Committees, which in other societies not incorporated, is the governing body between annual meetings.

Nebraska has had the question of quarterly meetings brought before it.

It It would seem therefore that Bylaws Art. I of the Constitution, Yearbook 1917-18 being in accord with the spirit of the organization and in accord with state laws governing such organizations and also with provisions in Roberts Rules, should be retained.

As it is, the proposed amendments vest all power in a small Executive Committee rather than in the directorate as specified in Art. IV, sec. 1. This committee may be called

See Bylaws Art II sec 1. Art II sec 1. Art 5 sec 1. Const.

easily upon "need" by the president. The membership of this committee is made very much smaller a majority. Three may decide weighty questions, yet it is made an easy matter for them to be called while the real governing body has restrictions (Bylaws I sec. 2.) placed upon it. Roberts says, "Commit tees are subordinate to the body that appoints them." Then why are standing and special committees not responsible to the (Art. VI, sec. 1) board of Directors especially as the Board are to determine whether such committees shall exist?

Should not the officers provided for in Art. IV sec. 1 amended Bylaws, be on the Executive Committee? Is it not their part "to enlarge, strengthen and unify the work of the societies"?

Are they not to be legitimate full fledged officers?

The highest purpose and best interests of the work can only be achieved most efficiently as these special secretaries bring their knowledge to bear on the business of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. And such secretaries would be prevented from urging business that might be most essential to the work if not able to be a part of those meetings. The proposed amendments surely lack the spirit of Premise I in regard to these secretaries.

The Boards certainly advocate that they be officers and all constitutions examined make them so. For example, Iowa Art. II, sec. 2--"Officers. The officers of this society shall be a pres., vice-pres., corresponding secy. and treas. of Contingent Fund, together with secretaries of Lit., Miss., Ed., Young Peoples Work, W. C. Chil. Work, Assoc. members and other secretaries as they may be required, etc."

Is it fair that this small committee, meeting on "need" should have expenses paid while the real governing board does not?

The Contingent Fund as specified in proposed amendments Art. VII and Bylaws Art. II becomes a very uncertain quantity if it is dependant on collections at Annual and Special meetings, called with difficulty.

The average collection at the Annual meetings for an average of 8 years was only $31.50; the average per year for quarterly meetings, a like amount. Gifts have been made, but are not regular or dependable. So the remaining amount must come from the pro rata tax. This is now to be placed in the Bylaws instead of the Constitution---so that a question that concerns every member may be changed by a few. Bylaws art 2 sec 2

It is a question for an annual meeting when 30 not 30 (Art. VI) should be quorum making a majority of delegates from societies. There are seventy or more societies.

A Contingent Fund that meets the needs of Bylaws Art. II must necessarily be a large one. On the other hand a contingent fund that interferes in any way with missionary contributions is a mistake.

Certain expenses are necessary and legitimate and each auxiliary, Presbyterial and Synodical Society should have a fund for them. It has been said, "If every auxiliary society had a Contingent Fund sufficient to meet all necessary demands, the question of how to raise the Presbyterial and Synodical Contingent Fund would be solved."

You refused to call our committee for lack of funds.

eThe railroad fare of 5 Presby. Pres. a v. p., recording sec. attending one Ex. session in Milwaukee figured up amounted to nearly $70.00. Railroad fare advances this year 25%.

The Synodical Societies handle no money but the Contingent Fund, which can be raised only by assessing each auxiliary or Presbyterial society its proportion of Synodical expenses. If the percapita tax were paid by all societies with collections at regular meetings, such a contingent fund under ordinary conditions could cover legitimate expenses, including those of officers, speakers and delegates to Board meetings, the increased cost of a Yearbook, etc. but it would not cover travelling expenses of an Executive Committee to attend meetings.

Iowa with 10 Presbyterial Societies has a very large Contingent Fund so have others. Iowa in Art. IV Contingent Fund---"From the C. F. shall be paid the expenses of their society for correspondence, printing (they have their own magazine); speakers for the annual meeting; one half the expense of the Syn. Young Peoples secretary to Iowa Summer School, expenses to Syn. meeting of the president and corresponding secretary; 1/2 the travelling expenses of the secretaries---Literature, Young Peoples', W. G., Childrens Work Missionary Education; Assoc. members--- to the Syn. meeting; the expenses of the Pres. to Biennial of the Woman's Board of the N. W. and in alternate years to such of the nearby conference as shall be necessary for the full understanding of the work. Other uses of the Contingent Fund shall be decided by the Executive Committee."

Bylaws Art. I sec. 3. This really is a splendid idea, but with a constantly changing membership I see confusion in the future. Say three years, for instance, one year one Presbytery lost 11 organizations. Last year one Presbytery added 4. So you see the opportunity for fluctuation and the problem that could arise.

With a Nominating Committee consisting of a representative from each presbytery it would seem that could be taken care of and the danger of future difficulty avoided, without this clause.

Then there might be splendid material for officers available in Winnebago or Chippewa Presbytery, etc. which could not be used because the full quota of directors had been filled.

May I sight a possible though not improbable case that could happen under your amendments.

The Executive Committee scattered about the state comprises seven officers---5 presbyterial officers, 5 of whom constitute a quorum and a possible three could carry the business of some 2000 members.

The president receives a letter asking for the expenditure of $3000 for mission work. The railroad expenses of attending executive members is paid from the Contingent Fund. The possible majority 3 agree that money shall be spent. Perhaps it is not possible for various well founded reasons for the pres. or rec. secy. at the request of the 3 directors (they might not acquiesce) to call the directors meeting until sometime after the time for paying the money (if immediately needed.) There is nothing for the directors to do but consent, tho they do not approve. Perhaps too the expenditure was not the wisest or best possible investment of the funds, tho so considered by three. All people do not have good business sense and are easily led. What restitution has the governing body?

Then again, as has happened this year to my knowledge-- A notice for a special meeting is sent out, but fails to reach a director. A great deal of trouble even a law suit could result from the "Special" meeting.

To me it is not fair or in accord with the spirit of our work that a small executive body should have the power to vote funds and do business with a very uncertain, indefinite time for ~~ratification~~ presentation to the Board. There should be definite Ratification by the Board.

This covers most of my points.

I am leaving town tomorrow, but I will try to send my minority report to you in time for you to include it in your multigraph copies.

Sincerely,

P.S. I noticed, of Woman's National Board of Foreign Missions which you have used, the new title is "Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A."

to placed?
The assumption of this control and the commissioning of Miss Austin to work under direction of Administrative Council seems sound to Synod. Could our Society initiate a work in this which could be Supervised + directed entirely by the Woman's Board?

Miss Austin has been commissioned for the coming year on the following terms: Date June 2nd
"On motion it was voted that Miss Austin's salary be $1200 + expenses not to exceed $300.; beginning Apr. 1st, 1920." The com. appointed to arrange for her work reported it had felt it unwise to commission by Northern Wis. + Upper Mich. Conf. Milwaukee + vicinity - when Walker was left unplanned to permit her to work in that field. The motion was made + carried "That the itinerary for Miss Austin be submitted by the Administrative Council to the Board of Directors at each quar. meeting."

Milwaukee Aug. 29th
1920

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

Enclosed you will please find a copy of the reports which have just been sent the President for such auxiliary reports to be presented at Madison. In response to a letter concerning White Cross work, the inquiry was made as to when the Com. on Incor. + By-Laws would meet - and possibly the original will serve to give a better understanding of conditions and the women representing the factions; please overlook any personalities that have entered too largely into this already and we never cease to deplore it.

The employment of Mrs. McKee would scarcely seem a synodical object and I enclose copies of the original documents to send to your society.

The very valuable promotion of women who are informed - make this change, as soon as possible and might it not - the directing of funds now pledged to the boards?

Some of the societies have a missionary committee - some may give indiscriminately - not specifying - & the object they wish to contribute.

Our "Problems" in Wisconsin are many. Mrs. A. G. Wessert had hoped that when you came to Madison it would be possible for you to go over the Logstein field - and see just what the needs are. Rev. Harris & Miss Austin meet us at Madison.

This work, as we understand it, was to be directed & partially supported by Assembly's Board for a term of 5 years - at which time the Synod of Wisconsin would assume entire direction.

The 5 years have nearly expired - Should this change be effected there will over by Oct.

pleted and, as a member of the committee, was entrusted with it's correspondence.

Every one as it's to assist has responded in it's most beautiful spirit, accepting it's responsibilities as a privilege and

leader to do whatever is asked to lend to it's success of it's Annual Dharma. It has been a real joy to meet this spirit over here.

I have written the Park Hotel manager a reservation for June, for the 12th, 13th + 14th of October as it's accommodations at that time may be limited.

Anticipating much pleasure from our meeting together and praying that harmony and peace may attend, I remain, So sincerely

(Mrs. N.P.) Blanche R. Sale

(Following this action the Lyn. Cor. Secy rose + said "Can't you trust the men"? Silence.

We were in doubt as to Miss Austin's acceptance so along early in July, Mrs. McElroy - V. Pres. of Home Missions - phoned Mrs. Jackson + inquired, learned she "had forgotten all about it"; then on phoning the President learned "she hadn't had time, etc. So Mrs. McElroy wrote + evidently the Cor. Secy also, for later the Cor. Secy read Miss Austin's acceptance dated July 9th.

Thro' no fault of her own, Miss Austin was employed at different times - and this is unavoidable. The Lyn. is responsible to the Auxiliaries and should know just when Miss Austin is located + what she is doing at all times. We have not learned how the A.C. have received their suggestion; They meet early in Sept.

Our Romain Boards, each have an established headquarters; while

For many years Milwaukee has prided
herself on recognized no such place is
maintained according to our Articles;
had this been done years ago
much of the antagonism towards
Milwaukee could have been avoided.

Now the report to be presented this
year by the Chm. no mention is made
of the representation to be elected
annually by this Society - to be included
in the membership of the Inter-
Council; the Council has named
the President of each Provincial
Society and the Synodical President
as official members of this body;
the Chm. contends that this corrects
former representation;
it would seem that A.C. can add
whomever they choose to their body,
but they can not be classed as
Official representatives of our Syn. &c.
There will undoubtedly be some discussion
on this point.

Our program is practically com-

459 JUNEAU PLACE
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Maynard

August 30th--1920

My Dear Mrs. Bennett:-

First I want to thank you for mother for the letter received from the office this last week. We are so glad that you can say a few words to the young people on Teusday evening. We are engaging a room for you at the Park Hotel, thinking it will be easier for you than to be entertained.

Mrs. Yale tells me that she has sent you copies of both the majority and minority reports of the Constitution Committee and I am very anxious to have you see the enclosed letter that Mrs. Sleeper, our Recording Secy. and representing the minority on the committee, wrote to Mrs. Williams on first receiving the committee report. It expresses so well the feeling of a good many of us about the whole question that I asked Mrs. Sleeper if I might send it to you. She was very

hesitant about it but was willing to do it if we thought best. You need not return it, just destroy it when you ar through with it.

We feel that we have done everything that we can now to straighten out the situation, before the meeting, and we are going to have a definite time each day when we will pray about it and we trust that whatever is best will come to pass at the meeting.

I am so glad that the copy of the contract was found in the archives of the Home Board.

Hoping that you have had a good rest this summer and looking forward with great pleasure to seeing you in Madison I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Katherine S. Maynard

Milwaukee, Sept. 14th.
1920

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

When the last packet was mailed for Tech I made reference upon your significant and much to silent reference. A few days ago my letter copy which I signed and you mid enclosed was read one over my phone. It explains itself.

If reading is correct, or if Signatures

Mrs. Sleeper writes "Please tell Mrs. Bennett how very thankful I am that she is to be with us, but I wish it was under different conditions, voicing the sentiments of all.

Dear Mrs. Bennett, please forgive me, for troubling you but such a situation has never confronted us before and we are unable to cope with it alone. At Neenah last Oct. when the majority report was not accepted, Mrs. McElroy made the motion that "the committee be continued another year, Mrs. V.C. Sleeper being added to the committee." This named the situation until you could come to Wisconsin.

With heart felt gratitude
Blanche R. Yale
(Mrs. V.P.)

are those of the Pres. + Cor. Sec'y. of the
Winnebago Pastoral Society.

One especial change may I call your
attention to: placing the section relating to the
contingent fund in the by-laws; now it may be
amended at will — the idea has never been to
raise these expenses by additional tax on
auxiliaries. — but by appropriating any or
all amounts from the "Langin - Marquis
home.

Is it customary for a Synodical
President to "take rides" on any pass?

So few of our women give these questions

the study and consideration
we are so constrained. [illegible]

[illegible] committee [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible] by [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible]
[illegible] — [illegible]
[illegible] —

Milwaukee, Sept. 23, 18[illegible]

My dear Mrs. Bennett,

Your kind letter of Sept. 20th at hand. I regret that I am compelled to trespass upon your time with this, but we wished you to have full cognizance of the procedure soon coming into session.

P.S. Woman's Association of Commerce

deeply regret your inability to be here
Sunday Oct. 12th but are much ready to
recognize the many demands made upon
your time and strength and the necessity
for your conserving your energy for these
prior obligations.

We hope some time in the future we may
enjoy the rich privileges of having you with us.

Yours Sincerely

(Mrs. W. P.) Blanche N. Gale

The Congregationalists meet at Madison
the same days as the Presbyterians - so we
planned to secure accommodations in advance.